Introduction To Classes

In this lesson, we will learn about classes using object-oriented methodology.

Like C++ and Java, PHP also supports object-oriented programming. This means that classes and objects can be created in PHP. Let's learn more about them.

What are Classes?

Classes are the blueprints of objects. One of the big differences between functions and classes is that a class contains both data (variables) and functions to form a package. A class is a user-defined data type, which includes local methods and local variables.

What are Objects

An object is an individual instance of the data structure defined by a class. We define a class once and then make many objects that belong to that class.

Inside an Object

Objects, in PHP, are divided into two parts:
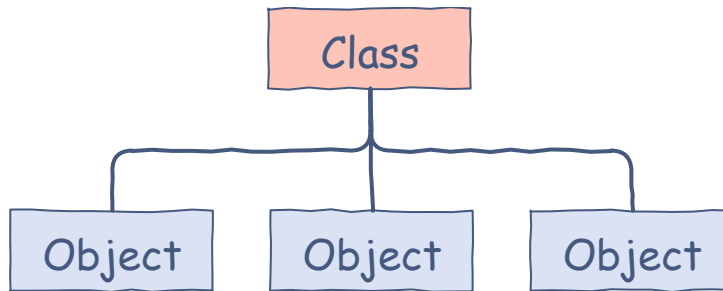
- property
- method

Property

A property is essentially the *variables* inside the class or object

Method

Methods refer to the *functions* inside the class or object.

The what and the why?

Classes and **Objects** are used to make your code more efficient and less repetitive by grouping similar tasks. A class is used to define the actions and data structure used to build objects. The objects are then built using this predefined structure.

Now that you understand the basic concept, let's move on to the next lesson, where we'll learn how to define a class.