Day 58

Rickety, Rackety, React

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Component Refresher

Instead of separating "layout and logic", React JS uses what alternative paradigm?

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Components*!

* If you only learn one thing from our lessons on React it should be this.

What **exactly** are components again?

Power of Components!

By separating elements out into components...

- Layout and Logic are kept bundled together in a self-contained package.
- Components can easily be re-used in various points in the application without needing to be re-coded. Power of Components!
- Components can be more easily tested.

 (i.e. having one re-usable component means only one UI element needs to be tested).

For complex applications each of these can be critical in finding bugs and saving time.





What method do we use to create a new component?

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var ClassName* = React.createClass()

* Remember that React components must be capitalized

What method do we use to create a render our components to the DOM?

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ReactDOM.render()*

* Note that you will only be rendering a single component into the DOM. Every other component will be a child to that component.

New Question:

Every component **must** contain which method?

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render: function() { }*

* Our render function will define what our component will look like. It will be in JSX syntax

New Question:

How do we deploy a component in our JSX?

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How do we deploy a component in our JSX?

<ComponentName />

New Question:

How would we deploy a component <u>inside</u> of another component?

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JSX Gotcha's

Incorporating Classes

It turns out...

- You can incorporate classes into JSX
- You just need to call them "className"
- This is because "class" is a reserved keyword in Javascript

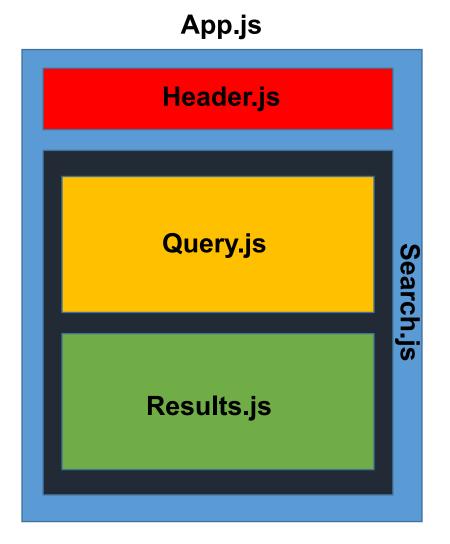
It also turns out...

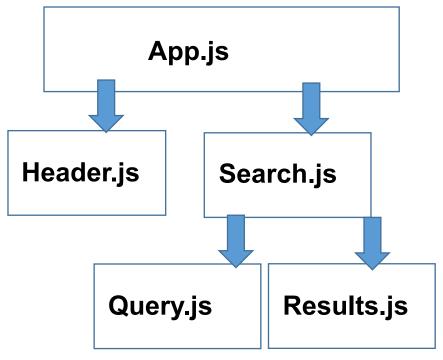
- You can incorporate CSS styles into JSX
- You just need to <u>ditch the hyphen and</u> <u>camelcase</u> the property.
- Ex: font-size → fontSize

<h4 className="" style="fontSize: 64px">End Year</h4>

Component Architecting

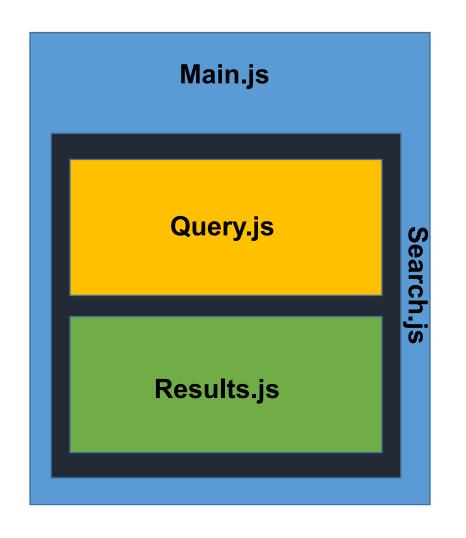
Parent-Child Relationships

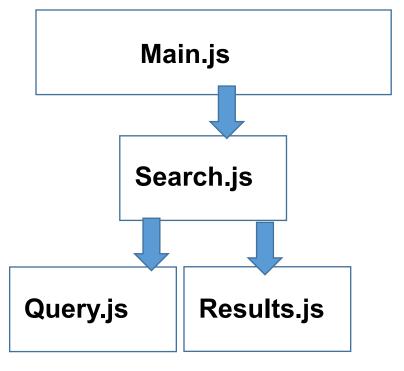




First step in building React applications is determining the component hierarchy.

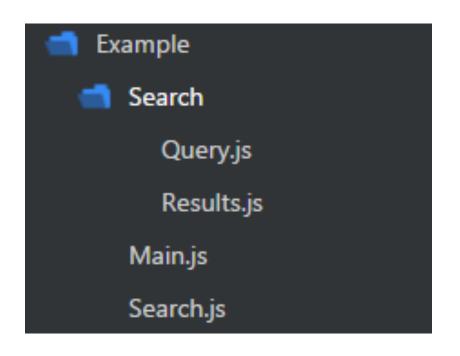
Parent-Child Relationships

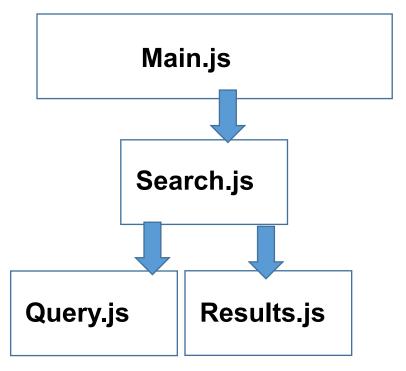




Sometimes, you can then simplify it by realizing certain components are static elements.

Parent-Child Relationships





You then code out your components to match the same hierarchy.

States and Props

Passing State from Parent to Child

```
<div className="main-container">
     {/*Note how we pass the setQuery function to enable Query to perform searches*/}
     <Query updateSearch={this.setQuery} />
     {/*Note how we pass in the results into this component*/}
     <Results results={this.state.results}/>
     </div>
```

 Parents can pass data (states and props) or methods to children.

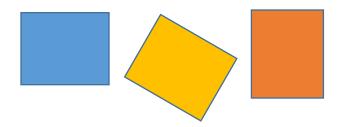
(It's a bit trickier to send it to parents).

Children Inherit Props

```
/*This code handles the sending of the search terms to the parent Search component*/
handleSubmit: function(){
    console.log("CLICKED");
    this.props.updateSearch(this.state.search, this.state.start, this.state.end);
    return false;
},
```

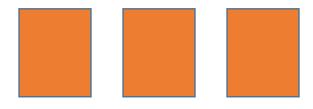
- When children inherit the data or method it ALWAYS comes in the form of a prop.
- Props can be specifically referenced using this.props.propName syntax.

Props vs States: What's the Difference?





- Mutable (i.e. changeable with UI).
- States can be changed using this.setState({})

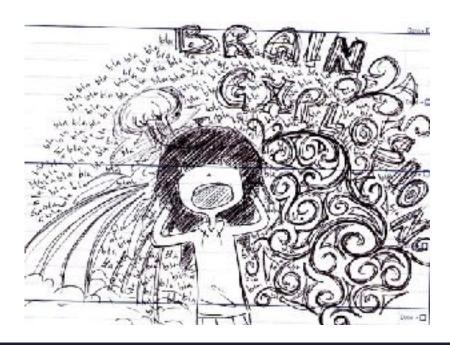


Props:

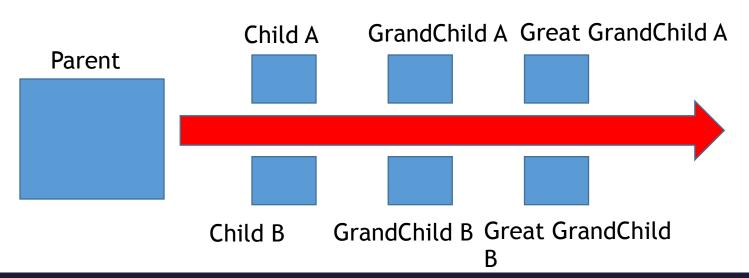
- Immutable (i.e. unchangeable).
- Props are static elements. They may be static properties or static methods.

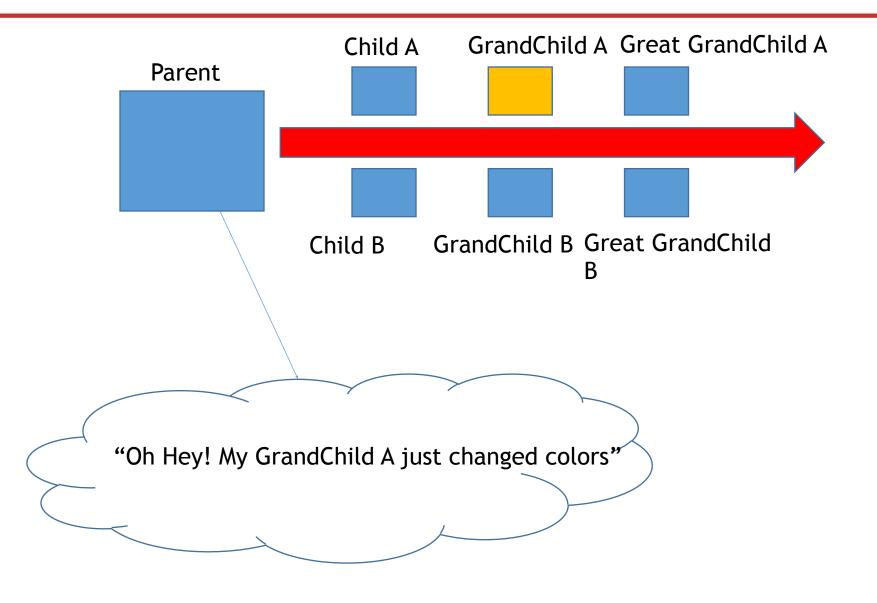
React.JS has a strong preference for passing <u>state</u> from parents to children...

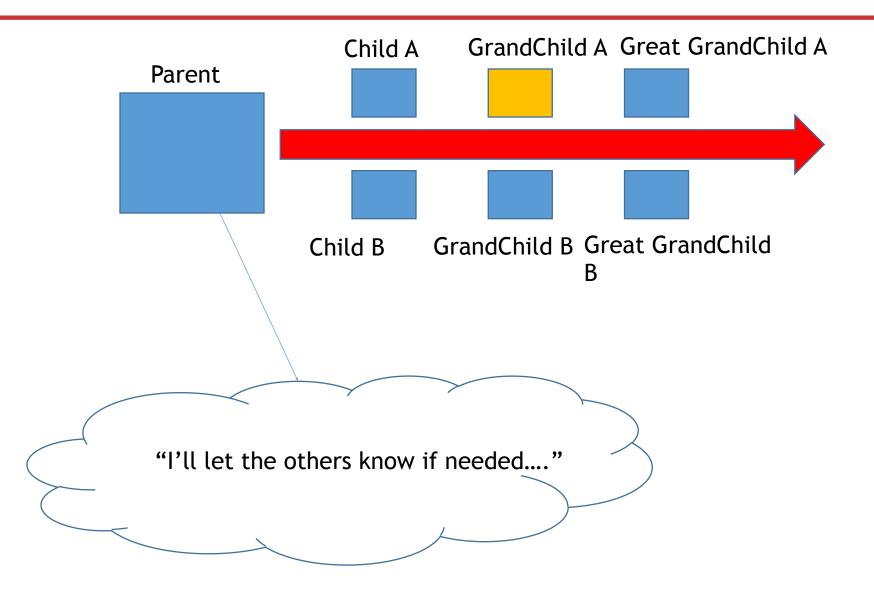
What is the implication of this?



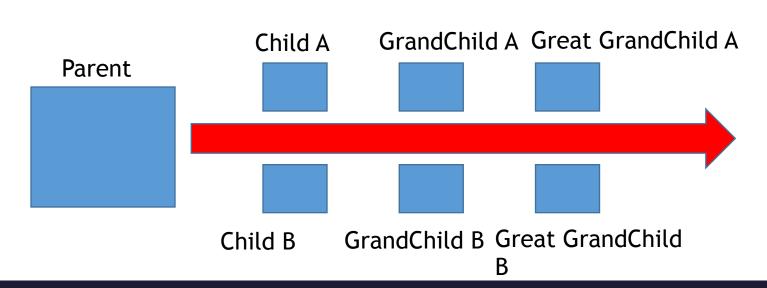
- React.JS has a strong preference for unidirectional data flow.
- This means that the variables that get manipulated are controlled by parents.
- Parents are then responsible for <u>divvying the data (and</u> <u>state changes) to the children</u>.







 This approach is meant to create a level of manageability when it comes to data flow and UI changes.



Time to Code!

Questions