Adding More HTML and CSS

Activity Directions

Estimated time: 60 minutes

This week, we will continue with the webpage we started in the previous activities. Open up the `index.html` file from last week in your editor to begin.

We got all the content in our page last week, but you might have noticed it doesn't look too great. Remember that HTML is responsible to get content on a page, but to style it we use CSS.

By the end of this activity, it won't look too much better, it will still take a few weeks before it looks like the wireframe.

The first part of this activity will use the following HTML concepts or properties (review the links if you need to):

- HTML5 Elements
- HTML Semantics
- HTMl Block and Inline
- HTML Links

Review Wireframe

First, review the wireframe again to help remember what we are trying to eventually do. Last week we added all of our content to our page, along with some extra HTML to group up related content as necessary.

Note

At this point, do not expect your page to *look* like the wireframe. We are laying a foundation, but have not learned how to position elements yet. Don't worry if your page does not look like the wireframe at the end of the activity.

Internal links

Your page has `<a>` tags to link to your other internal web pages that belong to your website. The `<nav>` element contains these links. You will rename one of the pages later for the child pages that you will be completing.

It is often considered a good practice if you have a link that takes you away from the current site to have it open in a new window or tab. This can be done with the `target="_blank"` attribute.

We will do that in the next step.

External links

There are some external links in the footer to social media sites. In this case, it was appropriate to make the images the link instead of text.

Make sure the all the social media links open in a new window/tab of the browser with the `target="_blank"` attribute added to the opening tag of each `<a>`. Since these are external sites, it's good practice to open them in a new tab.

More on the target attribute at [w3schools target attribute]().

Here is an example:

```
<a href="https://facebook.com" target="_blank">
```

```
        <img src="images/facebook.png" alt="fb icon">
    </a>
```

Adding CSS

We've been doing a lot with HTML so far. In fact, we have now added almost all the HTML we will need! I think it's about time we got to CSS!

The second half of the activity will use the following HTML/CSS concepts or tags (review the links if they are new to you or if you do not remember them:

- External Style Sheet
- CSS Syntax (Including class and id selectors)
- Background Colors
- Text Colors
- CSS Width
- CSS Margin
- CSS Centering (Top half of the page)

External Stylesheets

We will use an external stylesheet.

We will add a line in your HTML that looks like this:

```
<link rel="stylesheet" href="styles/style.css">
```

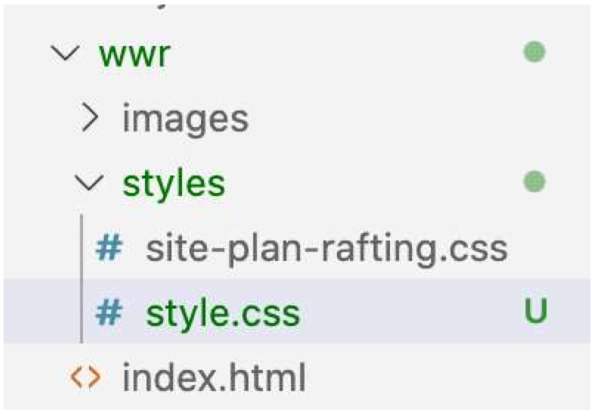
The `link` tag tells the html file where to find the CSS it should use to style the page. We will enter all of our CSS in the `style.css` file.

Make sure the `link` element is in the `<head>` section.

We now need to actually make this file called `style.css`. And from the path we see that the css file will be inside the styles folder.

Creating the CSS File

We will create a stylesheet inside the styles folder. Make sure you are on the Explorer icon in Visual Studio and that your project is listed there. Select the styles folder and the 'New File' icon. Name the file style.css



Make a CSS file

This CSS file will provide the styles for every page of our rafting website.

Adding a container for our entire page

There comes a point on larger monitors that our page will seem overwhelming with our large hero image and other content. We need to set a `max-width` so when our page gets so big, it will stop growing in size. To do this, go back to the HTML document and we will need a container to target in CSS that we can give a `max-width` to. Just add the new div element. You already have the other elements.

```
<body>
    <div id="content">
        <header>
    . . .
        </footer>
    </div>
</body>
```

The div will wrap around the entire page, or in other words, the entire contents of the body. The opening `<div>` tag will be after the opening `<body>` tag and close before the closing `<body>` tag.

Setting a width

Apply a `width` to your whole page to keep it from stretching across the whole browser window on very large monitors by making a CSS rule for the `<div>` we added in the last step with the id of `content`. Go back to your CSS file. In the new rule we will add, let's set the `max-width` of the page to 1600px. Doing it on that `<div>` will make sure that no element on the page can be wider than that.

Why `max-width` instead of just `width` you may be asking yourself? Setting a `width` on an element will make it so that it is **always** that size. We never know what size of a screen someone might be looking at our page with...so forcing something to always be a size is a bit dangerous. The fact is that we don't care what size the content of our page is, as long as it's not *wider* than 1600px. It can certainly be narrower. Using `max-width` allows for that. Our page can be whatever size the screen...unless the screen is wider than our limit...then it will stop growing!

Centering the page

We set the `max-width`, but the page still wouldn't look right on large monitors because the whole page would be left aligned. It would look better if it were centered. Block elements are centered by setting a `width` and adjusting the left and right `margin`. (Margin is the space between elements on a page or between the element and the edge of the browser window. Inline elements are centered by using the text-align property.)

Let's center our content. The `<div>` we set the `width` on, is a block element, that means we will need to use `margin` to center it. The idea is to set a `width` (we did this in the last step), then tell the browser to take whatever `margin` is available and split it between the left and right of the element. Add `margin: 0 auto;` to the CSS rule for `#content`. We gave it two values. The first says to set the top and bottom margins to 0 and the second says to set the left and right margins to auto: meaning to split any `margin` available between the left and right.

You may not see any difference when you set the `max-width` and center with `margin: 0 auto`. This is probably because the monitor you are using to view the page is not wider than 1600px.

This is why it's always important to view your page on many different types of devices. If you want to take a quick look to see if it worked; you can zoom out of the browser page with a Ctrl- (minus sign) until it's small enough to see the margins on either side. Use Ctrl+ (plus sign) to get it back to 100% zoom when you are done.

More Centering

While we are centering, notice with the wireframe that many elements are centered within their parent elements. Start a CSS rule for each of the following and apply the `text-align: center;` style to the following selectors:

```
nav a
#hero-msg h1, #hero-msg h4
.button-box
main section
```

Adding a container for our message background

We will be using an empty `<div>` tag to hold a background color for our message. Add a `<div>` element below the ending `</section>` tag and above the `<img>` tag. We will give it an id of `background` because that is all it will do: serve as a background container. There will be no content.

```
<section class="rapids-card">
    <img class="card-img" src="images/rapids.jpg" alt="rafting boat">
    <img class="icon" src="images/oars.png" alt="oars icon">
    <h2>Rapids</h2>
</section>
<div id="background"></div>
<img class="mountains" src="images/mountains.jpg" alt="Misty mountains">
<section class="msg">
    <h2>More Than Just The Thrill</h2>
    <p>Enjoy the breathtaking scenery. From valleys, meadows, canyons, ar
    <a class='join' href="rivers.html">Join Us</a>
</section>
```

Start a new rule in CSS targeting the new div with the id of `background` and give it a declaration of `height: 725px;`. Later we will be giving it a background color as well.

Here is an example:

```
#background {
    height: 725px;
```

```
  }

}
```

Setting background colors

Our next step is to add background colors to liven up our page a bit. The `background-color` property will set the background color of an element. Right now, the background colors default to transparent or whatever the background color of the parent element is. We want the following elements to stand out and have their own background colors.

As you apply background colors and text colors make sure you pick colors with a good contrast. Go to your site plan for colors that you had in mind for the site.
Use `background-color` for backgrounds and `color` for text or font colors.

Add `background-color` values to the following selectors:

```
body
header
nav a:hover
.book, .join
.book:hover, .join:hover
#background
.msg
footer
```

For example:

```
body {
    background-color: #fcfbfb;
}
header {
    background-color:rgba(20,30,13, .7);
}
```

```
  nav a:hover {
      background-color: black;
  }
```

Think about using your own colors from your site plan.

A different shade of white was used for the background in this example.

An rgba was used in the example for the header because eventually we want to see the hero image through the header, but you can choose what you want. You can always change it later.

These colors will need to have good contrast with the colors we set in the next step.

Foreground colors

The color you changed the backgrounds to, may make it hard to read the text in the foreground. Use the `color` property for the text. The `color` property always refers to the font color.

Again, replace the colors with those from your chosen palette in the site plan. Pick something that looks good with the background color and that is easily readable and has good contrast. You can always use white or black if you need to.

Change the `color` property for all these selectors. If any selector already has a rule-set, just add the `color` declaration to it. Don't start a new rule-set.

```
nav a
nav a:hover
.home-title
h4
.book, .join
.book:hover, .join:hover
.msg h2
.msg p
footer
```

`footer a`
`footer a:hover`

For example:

```
nav a:hover {
    background-color: black;
    color: #d9c2a3;
}
```

Add a Few Widths

Let's add a few widths to some elements.

Add a `width` of 80px to the logo and each icon image that goes with the cards. I would use the `.logo` class as the selector for the logo, otherwise all your images might get that `width`.

Use `.icon` as the selector for all the card icons.

Let's give a more responsive `width` to our hero image. Let's give it a `width` of 100%. Again, use the `#hero-img` selector so you don't affect any other images by mistake.

For example:

```
.icon {
    width: 80px;
}
```

We will set more `width` in later weeks as we work with layout.

Take off or add the default underline of links

Underlines aren't always necessary with all links, especially the links we have that will eventually look like buttons or with links that have a hover effect. We will take the underline off with the `text-decoration` property and set it to a value of none. We will also add the `underline` value to a hover as well.

Add the `text-decoration` property with a value of `none` to the following selectors:

`nav a`
`.book, .join`
`footer a`

Here is an example:

```
nav a {
    text-align: center;
    color: #fcfbfb;
    text-decoration: none;
}
```

If you already have the selector targeted in your CSS file, just add the new declarations to it. You should **not** have more than one rule applying to the same selector.

Add a larger font size to the footer text.

Here is an example:

```
footer p {
    font-size: 1.2em;
}
```

Add the `text-decoration` property with a value of `underline` to the following selectors:

`footer p a:hover`

Here is an example:

```
footer p a:hover {
    text-decoration: underline;
}
```

Check your work

Publish your site and check the sharable link to make sure the web page displays correctly. Check all the hover pseudo-classes to make sure they work and look good. Once verified, submit the URL for your page to Canvas.

Make sure to validate your page as well and fix any errors that show,

and CSS, fix any errors, then submit the URL to your site in ILearn.

Your page still won't be pretty yet. It will look something like this:

Home Page 2 Site Plus Contact Us

Have An Adventure

Make Memories with Dry Oar

Book Now

Rivers

Camping

Rapids

More Than Just The Thrill

Enjoy the breathtaking scenery. From valleys, meadows, canyons, and high peaks; it's way more than just the rapids. It's a great way to get away from it all and relax amongst all the beauty of the great outdoors.

Join Us

Dry Oar © 20XX - Your First and Last Name Here

Site Plan

Contact Us