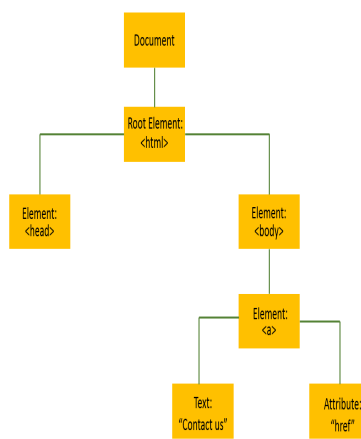


JavaScript and the DOM

Nodes in DOM tree

A *node* in the DOM tree is the intersection of two branches containing data. Nodes can represent HTML elements, text, attributes, etc. The *root node* is the top-most node of the tree. The illustration shows a representation of a DOM containing different types of nodes.



HTML DOM

The DOM is an interface between scripting languages and a web page's structure. The browser creates a Document Object Model or DOM for each webpage it renders. The DOM allows scripting languages to access and modify a web page. With the help of DOM, JavaScript has the ability to create dynamic HTML.

Accessing HTML attributes in DOM

The DOM nodes of type Element allow access to the same attributes available to HTML elements. For instance, for the given HTML element, the `id` attribute will be accessible through the DOM.

```
<h1 id="heading">Welcome!</h1>
```

The Document Object Model

The *Document Object Model*, or DOM is a representation of a document (like an HTML page) as a group of objects. While it is often used to represent HTML documents, and most web browsers use JavaScript interfaces to the DOM, it is language agnostic as a model. The DOM is tree-like and heirarchical, meaning that there is a single top-level object, and other objects descend from it in a branching structure.

The DOM Parent-Child Relationship

The parent-child relationship observed in the DOM is reflected in the HTML nesting syntax. Elements that are nested inside the opening and closing tag of another element are the children of that element in the DOM.

In the code block, the two `<p>` tags are children of the `<body>`, and the `<body>` is the parent of both `<p>` tags.

```
<body>
  <p>first child</p>
  <p>second child</p>
</body>
```

The `removeChild()` Method

The `.removeChild()` method removes a specified child from a parent element. We can use this method by calling `.removeChild()` on the parent node whose child we want to remove, and passing in the child node as the argument.

In the example code block, we are removing `iceCream` from our `groceryList` element.

```
const groceryList =
document.getElementById('groceryList');
const iceCream =
document.getElementById('iceCream');

groceryList.removeChild(iceCream);
```

The `element.parentNode` Property

The `.parentNode` property of an element can be used to return a reference to its direct parent node. `.parentNode` can be used on any node.

In the code block above, we are calling on the `parentNode` of the `#first-child` element to get a reference to the `#parent div` element.

```
<div id="parent">
  <p id="first-child">Some child
text</p>
  <p id="second-child">Some more child
text</p>
</div>
<script>
  const firstChild =
document.getElementById('first-child');
  firstChild.parentNode; // reference
to the #parent div
</script>
```

The `document.createElement()` Method

The `document.createElement()` method creates and returns a reference to a new Element Node with the specified tag name.

`document.createElement()` does not actually add the new element to the DOM, it must be attached with a method such as `element.appendChild()`.

```
const newButton =
document.createElement("button");
```

The `element.innerHTML` Property

The `element.innerHTML` property can be used to access the HTML markup that makes up an element's contents.

`element.innerHTML` can be used to access the current value of an element's contents or to reassign it.

In the code block above, we are reassigning the `box` element's inner HTML to a paragraph element with the text "Goodbye".

```
<box>
  <p>Hello there!</p>
</box>

<script>
  const box =
document.querySelector('box');
  // Outputs '<p>Hello there!</p>':
  console.log(box.innerHTML)
  // Reassigns the value:
  box.innerHTML = '<p>Goodbye</p>'
</script>
```

The document Object

The `document` object provides a Javascript interface to access the DOM. It can be used for a variety of purposes including referencing the `<body>` element, referencing a specific element with ID, creating new HTML elements, etc.

The given code block can be used to obtain the reference to the `<body>` element using the `document` object.

```
const body = document.body;
```

The document.getElementById() Method

The `document.getElementById()` method returns the element that has the `id` attribute with the specified value.

`document.getElementById()` returns `null` if no elements with the specified ID exists.

An ID should be unique within a page. However, if more than one element with the specified ID exists, the `.getElementById()` method returns the first element in the source code.

```
// Save a reference to the element with
id 'demo':
const demoElement =
document.getElementById('demo');
```

The .querySelector() Method

The `.querySelector()` method selects the first child/descendant element that matches its selector argument.

It can be invoked on the `document` object to search the entire document or on a single element instance to search that element's descendants.

In the above code block, we are using `.querySelector()` to select the first `div` element on the page, and to select the first element with a class of `button`, inside the `.main-navigation` element.

```
// Select the first <div>
const firstDiv =
document.querySelector('div');

// Select the first .button element
inside .main-navigation
const navMenu =
document.getElementById('main-
navigation');
const firstButtonChild =
navMenu.querySelector('.button');
```

The document.body Object

`document.body` returns a reference to the contents of the `<body>` HTML element of a document/HTML page. The `<body>` element contains all the visible contents of the page.

The element.onclick Property

The `element.onclick` property can be used to set a function to run when an element is clicked. For instance, the given code block will add an `` element each time the element with ID `addItem` is clicked by the user.

```
let element =
document.getElementById('addItem');
element.onclick = function() {
    let newElement =
document.createElement('li');

document.getElementById('list').appendC
hild(newElement);
};
```

The element.appendChild() Method

The `element.appendChild()` method appends an element as the last child of the parent.

In the given code block, a newly created `` element will be appended as the last child of the HTML element with the ID `list`.

```
var node1 =
document.createElement('li');
document.getElementById('list').appendC
hild(node1);
```

The `element.style` Property

The `element.style` property can be used to access or set the CSS style rules of an element. To do so, values are assigned to the attributes of `element.style`.

In the example code, `blueElement` contains the HTML element with the ID `colorful-element`. By setting the `backgroundColor` attribute of the `style` property to blue, the CSS property `background-color` becomes blue.

Also note that, if the CSS property contains a hyphen, such as `font-family` or `background-color`, Camel Case notation is used in Javascript for the attribute name, so `background-color` becomes `backgroundColor`.

```
let blueElement =  
document.getElementById('colorful-  
element');  
blueElement.style.backgroundColor =  
'blue';
```

 **Print**  **Share** ▼