

RETRIEVING SERVER DATA

REST

- All of the previous examples used React components, they communicated with each other using props and hooks.
- React also communicate with back-end servers using **RESTful** APIs.
- There are a number of different ways of requesting data from servers in React.
- XMLHttpRequest , Fetch API, Axios

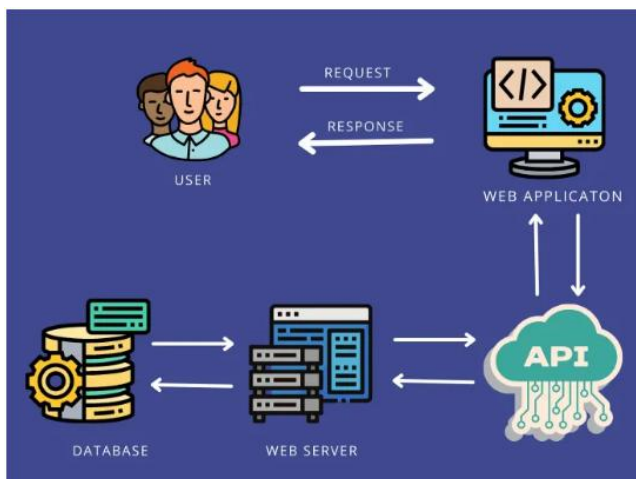
- When developing an application with React, users request data from a server to dynamically update content inside our application.
- Web services such as SOAP, WSDL, and REST are used to request data from a server.
- Most **client – server** examples focus on the RESTful API .
- REST :- Representational State Transfer
- The REST API can be defined as an API that uses the HTTP protocol GET, POST, and DELETE to request data

- Generally store data on the server
 - ▣ Allow data to be shared between site users
 - ▣ Data persistence
- But even with the data on the back-end we still have manage the data on the front-end?
- The REST API is a standardised interface for the client to manage data on the server.

REST API

- “An application programming interface (API) is a way for two or more computer programs to communicate with each other. It is a type of software interface, offering a service to other pieces of software.
- [1] A document or standard that describes how to build or use such a connection or interface is called an API specification. A computer system that meets this standard is said to implement or expose an API.
- The term API may refer either to the specification or to the implementation. Whereas a system's user interface dictates how its end-users interact with the system in question, its API dictates how to write code that takes advantage of that system's capabilities”

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/API>



- REpresentational State Transfer abbreviated to REST.
- It is an API that follows a set of rules for an application and services to communicate with each other.

<https://itznihal.medium.com/api-rest-api-and-restful-api-7767d9997854>

- When a user makes a request APIs send a 'request' information from a web application or web server, it will receive a 'response.'
- The location where APIs send requests or where resources live are endpoints.
- Examples

REST APIs

- With Full-Stack applications we want to store our data on the server side.
- The server takes care of creating, reading, updating, and deleting data.

store Access to Petstore orders	
GET	/store/inventory Returns pet inventories by status
POST	/store/order Place an order for a pet
GET	/store/order/{orderId} Find purchase order by ID
DELETE	/store/order/{orderId} Delete purchase order by ID

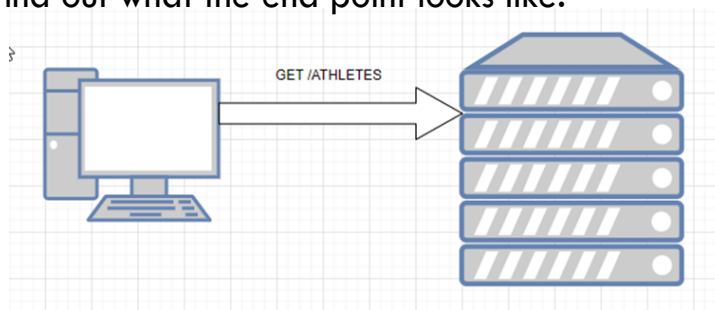
- REST API is a standardised way for the client side and our server to interact with regards to loading and manipulating data.
- The REST APIs provide us with, ways to do common task in the Full-Stack world

HTTP Methods and Their Meaning

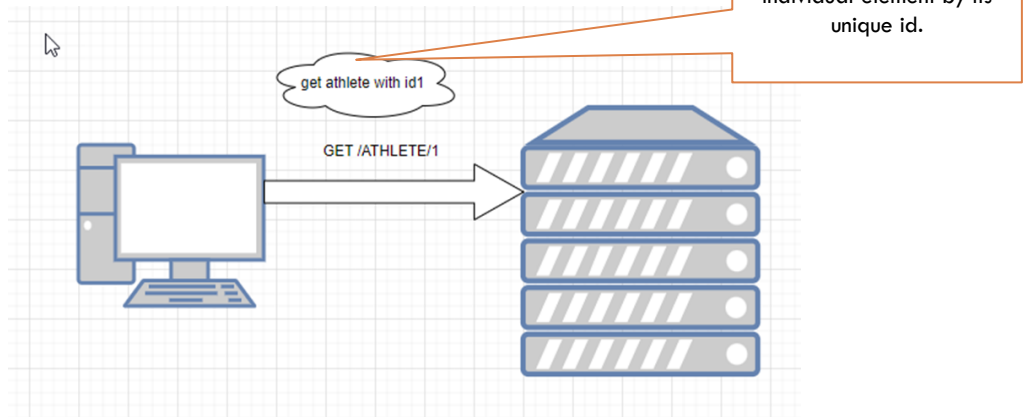
Method	Meaning
GET	Read data
POST	Insert data
PUT or PATCH	Update data, or insert if a new id
DELETE	Delete data

<https://www.freshersnow.com/rest-api-interview-questions-and-answers/>

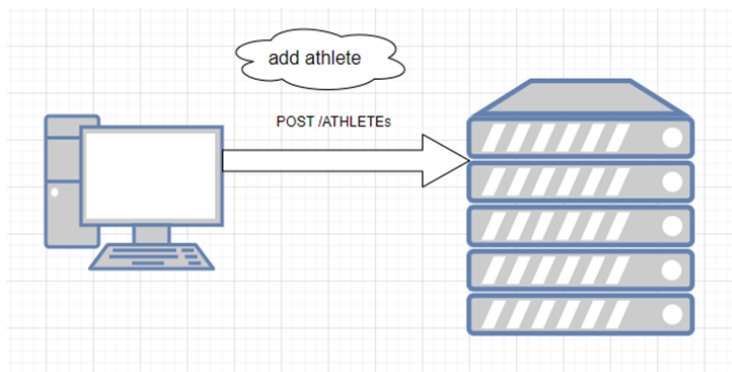
- The front-end makes a GET request to the URL /athletes on the server and then the server would send back an array containing all the athletes.
- For REST, the standardised way is to use the GET requests.
- The front-end users don't actually need to talk to the back-end people in most cases to find out what the end point looks like.



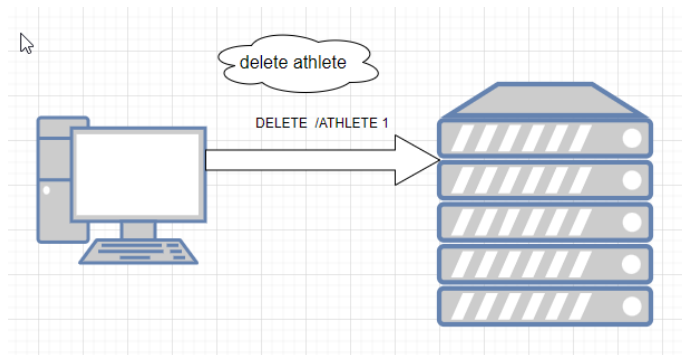
□ Loading a single instance



□ To create new data on the server send a POST request to the back-end



- To delete an instance of a given resource send a DELETE request to the URL `/athlete/1`

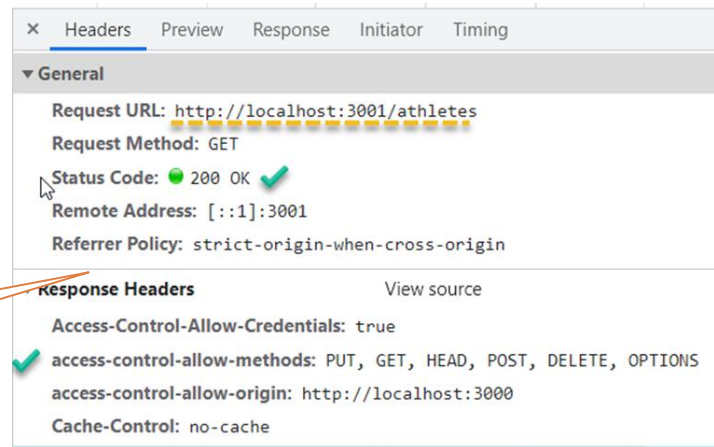


HTTP Status Codes

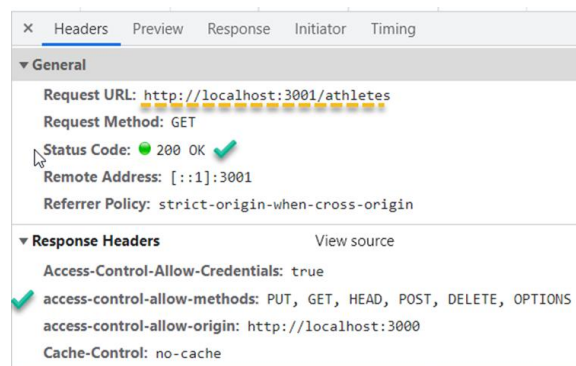
	Level 400	Level 500
Success)	400 : Bad Request	500 : Internal Server Error
ed	401 : Unauthorized	503 : Service Unavailable
Authoritative	403 : Forbidden	501 : Not Implemented
n	404 : Not Found	504 : Gateway Timeout
Content	409 : Conflict	599 : Network timeout
		502 : Bad Gateway

- When we request data from a server, we include HTTP headers in a REST request to tell the server the format of data the client is expecting.

To review details of headers, open the Chrome DevTools (F12), go to the Network tab, and refresh the page to request the data.



- When we request data from a server, we include HTTP headers in a REST request to tell the server the format of data the client is expecting.



XMLHttpRequest **object**

- This object is behind every Ajax request.
- The `open` method is used to open a connection for a request.
- The parameters for the `open` method, this method specifies whether the request is a GET or POST request and it provides the URL for the request.
- The `readyState` property indicates the state of the request, the `status` and `statusText` properties provide the status code and status message that's returned by the server, and the `responseText` and `responseXML` properties provide the returned data in plain or XML format.

XMLHttpRequest (old and dated)

- **Methods**
 - ▣ `abort()`
 - ▣ `getAllResponseHeaders()`
 - ▣ `getResponseHeader(name)`
 - ▣ `open(method, url[, async][, user][, pass])`
 - ▣ `send([data])`
 - ▣ `setRequestHeader(name, value)`
- **Properties**
 - ▣ `readyState`
 - ▣ `responseText`
 - ▣ `responseXml`
 - ▣ `status`
 - ▣ `statusText`
- **Event**
 - ▣ `onreadystatechange`

Recap

```

9  $(document).ready(function() {
10     var xhr = new XMLHttpRequest();
11     xhr.onreadystatechange = function() {
12         if (xhr.readyState == 4 && xhr.status == 200) {
13             xmlDoc = xhr.responseXML;
14             var team =
15                 xmlDoc.getElementsByTagName("sports");
16             var html = "";
17             for (i = 0; i < team.length; i++) {
18                 html +=
19                     xmlDoc.getElementsByTagName(
20                         "name")[i].childNodes[0].nodeValue + "<br>" +
21                     xmlDoc.getElementsByTagName(
22                         "country")[i].childNodes[0].nodeValue + "<br>" +
23                     xmlDoc.getElementsByTagName(
24                         "income")[i].childNodes[0].nodeValue + "<br><br>";
25             }
26             document.getElementById("stars").innerHTML = html;
27         }
28     }
29     xhr.open("GET", "athletes.xml", true);
30     xhr.send();
31 }

```

XMLHttpRequest data [object Object],[object Object],[object Object],[object Object] App.js:21

Athlete = Seamus Coleman App.js:23

Athlete = Rafa Nadal App.js:23

Athlete = Shane Lowery App.js:23

Athlete = Michael Jordan App.js:23

```

15  1 const xhttp = new XMLHttpRequest()
16
17  3 xhttp.onreadystatechange = function () {
18      if (this.readyState == 4 && this.status == 200) {
19          4 const data = JSON.parse(this.responseText)
20              // handle the response that is saved in variable data
21              console.log(`XMLHttpRequest data ${data}`);
22              data.map( (element)=> {
23                  5 console.log(`Athlete = ${element.name}`);
24              })
25          }
26      }
27
28  2 xhttp.open('GET', 'http://localhost:3001/athletes', true)
29  xhttp.send()

```

- The newer `fetch` API provides an simpler interface for fetching resources.
- Familiar to anyone who has used `XMLHttpRequest`, but the new API provides a more powerful and flexible feature set.

https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/API/Fetch_API

- https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/API/Fetch_API/Using_Fetch

A basic fetch request is really simple to set up. Have a look at the following code:

```
fetch('http://example.com/movies.json')
  .then((response) => response.json())
  .then((data) => console.log(data));
```

Here we are fetching a JSON file across the network and printing it to the console. The simplest use of `fetch()` takes one argument — the path to the resource you want to fetch — and does not directly return the JSON response body but instead returns a promise that resolves with a [Response](#) object.

fetch API

```
fetch(url)
  .then(function() {
    // handle the response
  })
  .catch(function() {
    // handle the error
  });
```

fetch demo

```
function loadContactsFetch() {
  fetch("contacts.json")
    .then(response => {
      if (!response.ok) {
        throw new Error("Network Error " + response.statusText);
      }
      return response.json();
    })
    .then(data => {
      displayContacts(data.people);
    })
    .catch(error => {
      console.error("Fetch error:", error);
    });
}
```

```
function displayContacts(people) {
  const list = document.createElement("ul");
  people.forEach(person => {
    const item = document.createElement("li");
    item.textContent = `${person.name} (${person.country}) - ${person.bio}`;
    list.appendChild(item);
  });
  document.body.appendChild(list);
}

loadContactsFetch();
```

Fetch Demo

- Seamus Coleman (Ireland) - Ireland and Everton footballer
- Rafa Nadal (Spain) - Tennis player
- Shane Lowery (Ireland) - Golfer from offaly
- Brian O'Driscoll (Ireland) - Irish Rugby
- Henry Shefflin (Ireland) - Kilkenny hurling captain
- Michael JordaN (America) - Famous basketball playerr
- Thierry Henry (France) - Famous handball player
- Mikel Merino (Spain) - Arsenal player

Fetch Vs jQuery Ajax

- The **Promise** returned from `fetch()` won't reject on HTTP error status even if the response is an HTTP 404 or 500. Instead, it will resolve normally (with `ok` status set to `false`), and it will only reject on network failure or if anything prevented the request from completing.
- `fetch()` won't can receive cross-site cookies; you can't can establish a cross site session using `fetch`. Set-Cookie headers from other sites are silently ignored.
- `fetch()` won't send cookies, unless you set credentials: 'same-origin'.

Axios

- Axios provides a cleaner, promise-based syntax that reduces boilerplate, automatically parses JSON responses, and includes built-in error handling for HTTP status codes.
- promise-based HTTP client for the browser and node.js.
- Takes advantage of `async` and `await` for more readable and asynchronous code.
- Need
 - `npm install axios`

Axios HTTP requests

- `axios.request(config)`
- `axios.get(url[, config])`
- `axios.delete(url[, config])`
- `axios.head(url[, config])`
- `axios.options(url[, config])`
- `axios.post(url[, data[, config]])`
- `axios.put(url[, data[, config]])`
- `axios.patch(url[, data[, config]])`

```
□ const client = axios.create({  
  □   baseURL: 'http://localhost:3000/athletes'  
  □ });
```

Simple axios post example

```

axios.post('/athlete', {
  id: 5,
  name: 'Pele',
  country: 'Brazil',
  income: 234234
})
.then((response) => {
  console.log(response);
}, (error) => {
  console.log(error);
});

```

```

// GET with Axios
useEffect(() => {
  const fetchPost = async () => {
    try {
      console.log("URL", client);
      let response = await client.get('http://localhost:3001/athletes');
      console.log(response);
      setPosts(response.data);
    } catch (error) {
      console.log(error);
    }
  };
  fetchPost();
}, []);

```

```

PS C:\restdemo\src> node axiosDemo
People data: [
  {
    id: '1',
    name: 'Lionel Messi',
    country: 'Argentina',
    bio: 'Footballer for PSG',
    age: 36,
    pic: 'messi.png'
  },
  {
    id: '3',
    name: 'Shane Lowery',
    country: 'Ireland',
    bio: 'Golfer from offaly',
    age: 35,
    pic: 'shane.png'
  }
]

```

JSON Server

- To use the REST API with React we need to create our own API in frontend.
- To create a fake API, with some sort of links, we need to have some sort of response that can test our frontend.
- This is where **JSON Server** come into play

json-server

DT

0.17.4 • Public • Published a month ago

Readme

Code Beta

19 Dependencies

328 Dependents

128 Versions

JSON Server

Node.js CI failing

Get a full fake REST API with **zero coding** in **less than 30 seconds** (seriously)

Created with <3 for front-end developers who need a quick back-end for prototyping and mocking.

- Egghead.io free video tutorial - Creating demo APIs with json-server
- JSONPlaceholder - Live running version
- My JSON Server - no installation required, use your own data

See also:

- husky - Git hooks made easy

Install

> npm i json-server

Repository

github.com/typicode/json-server

Homepage

github.com/typicode/json-server

Weekly Downloads

217,858

Version

License

Install JSON Server

```
npm install -g json-server
```

Create a `db.json` file with some data

```
{
  "posts": [
    { "id": 1, "title": "json-server", "author": "typicode" }
  ],
  "comments": [
    { "id": 1, "body": "some comment", "postId": 1 }
  ],
  "profile": { "name": "typicode" }
}
```

REATDEMO

- restdemo
 - data
 - {} athletes.json**
 - > node_modules
 - > public
 - > src
 - ◆ .gitignore
 - {} athletes.json
 - {} package-lock.json
 - {} package.json
 - ① README.md
 - {} athletes.json

restdemo > data > {} athletes.json > [] people > {} 5

```
1  {
2    "people": [
3      {
4        "id": 1,
5        "name": "Seamus Coleman",
6        "country": "Ireland",
7        "bio": " Ireland and Everton footballer",
8        "age": 23
9      },
10     {
11       "id": 2,
12       "name": "Rafa Nadal",
13       "country": "Spain",
14       "bio": " Tennis player ",
15       "income": 33
16     },
17   ],
18 }
```

Start JSON Server

```
json-server --watch db.json
```

```
PS C:\reatDemo\restdemo> cd data
PS C:\reatDemo\restdemo\data> npx json-server --watch athletes.json --port 8080

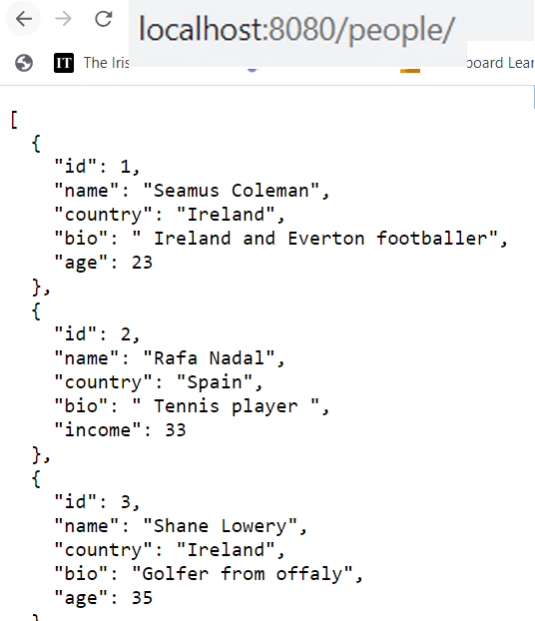
\{^_^}/ hi!

Loading athletes.json
Done

Resources
□ http://localhost:8080/people

Home
http://localhost:8080

Type s + enter at any time to create a snapshot of the database
Watching...
```



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying 'localhost:8080/people/'. The page content shows a JSON array of three objects, each representing a person with fields for id, name, country, bio, and age. The browser's developer tools are open, showing the JSON data.

```
[
  {
    "id": 1,
    "name": "Seamus Coleman",
    "country": "Ireland",
    "bio": "Ireland and Everton footballer",
    "age": 23
  },
  {
    "id": 2,
    "name": "Rafa Nadal",
    "country": "Spain",
    "bio": "Tennis player",
    "income": 33
  },
  {
    "id": 3,
    "name": "Shane Lowery",
    "country": "Ireland",
    "bio": "Golfer from offaly",
    "age": 35
  }
]
```



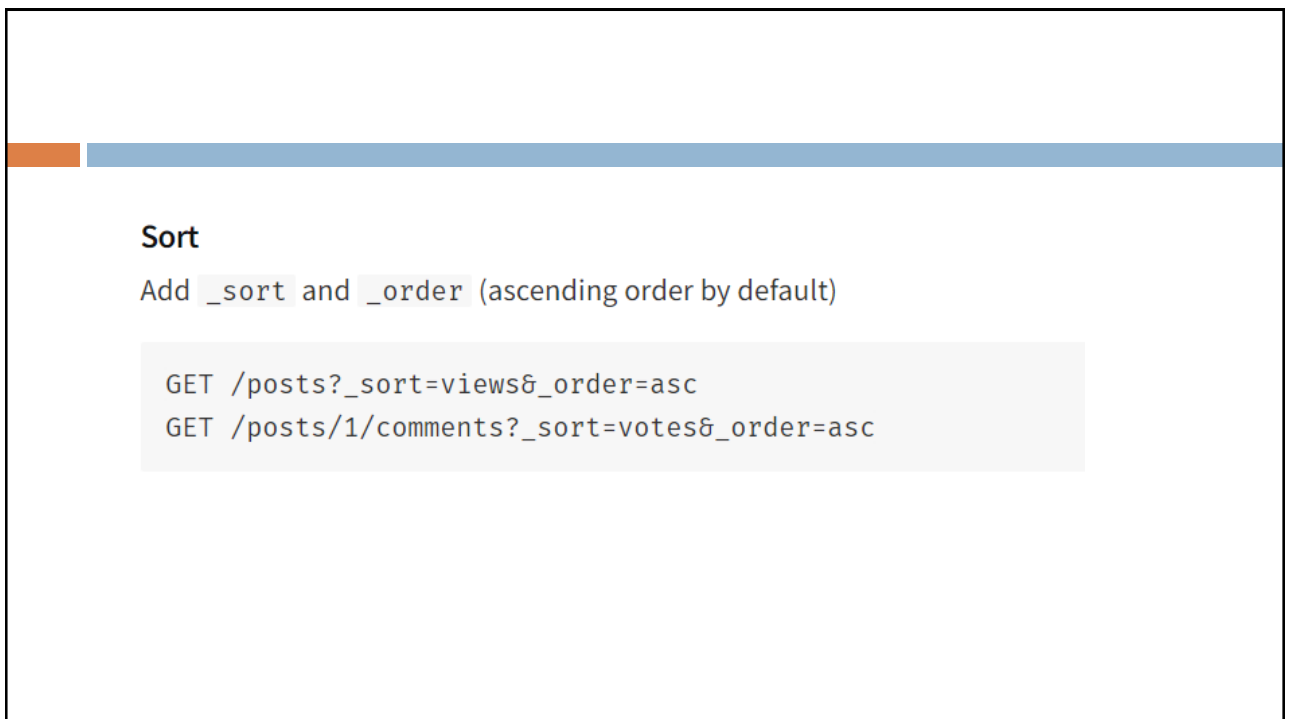
← → localhost:8080/people?age=30

Filter

Use . to access deep properties

```
[
  {
    "id": 2,
    "name": "Rafa Nadal",
    "country": "Spain",
    "bio": " Tennis player ",
    "age": 30
  },
  {
    "id": 4,
    "name": "Harry Kane",
    "country": "England",
    "bio": " England and spurs footballer",
    "age": 30
  }
]
```

```
GET /posts?title=json-server&author=typicode
GET /posts?id=1&id=2
GET /comments?author.name=typicode
```



Sort

Add `_sort` and `_order` (ascending order by default)

```
GET /posts?_sort=views&_order=asc
GET /posts/1/comments?_sort=votes&_order=asc
```

Fetch API

```
fetch(url)
  .then(function() {
    // handle the response
  })
  .catch(function() {
    // handle the error
  });
```

- To test react application we need to run two servers.

restdemo > src > components > JS PeopleList.js > [0] PeopleList

```
1  import { useEffect, useState } from "react"
2
3  export const PeopleList = () => {
4    const [people, setPeople] = useState([]);
5    console.log(`people loaded = ${people}`);
6
7    useEffect(() => {
8      console.log(`Mounted`);
9      fetch("http://localhost:8080/people")
10       .then(response => response.json())
11       .then(data => setPeople(data));
12    }, []);
13
14
15    return (
16      <div>
17        {
18          people.map((person) => (
19            <div className="card" key={person.id}>
20              <p>{person.id}</p>
21              <p>{person.name}</p>
22            </div>
23          ))
24        }
25      </div>
```

starts the process of fetching a resource from a server.

returns a Promise that resolves to a Response object

The browser shows a REST API demo at localhost:3000. The page displays a list of athletes with their IDs and names:

- 1: Seamus Coleman
- 2: Rafa Nadal
- 3: Shane Lowery
- 4: Harry Kane
- 5: Michael Murphy
- 6: Michael JordaN

The developer tools (Elements panel) show the following HTML structure:

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
  <head>
  </head>
  <body>
    <noscript>You need to enable JavaScript to run this app.</noscript>
    <div id="root">
      <div class="App">
        <h1>rest demo</h1>
        <div>
          <div class="card">
            <div class="card">
              <div class="card">
                <div class="card">
                  <div class="card">
                    <div class="card">
                      </div>
                    </div>
                  </div>
                </div>
              </div>
            </div>
          </div>
        </div>
      </div>
    </body>
  </html>
```

The VS Code editor shows a project named 'RESTDEMO' with a file explorer on the left. The 'data' folder contains several JSON files, including 'athletes.json'. A green arrow points from 'athletes.json' in the file explorer to the terminal output.

The terminal shows the command to start the JSON server:

```
C:\restdemo>npx json-server --watch ./data/athletes.json --port 8080
--watch/-w can be omitted, JSON Server 1+ watches for file changes by default
JSON Server started on PORT :8080
Press CTRL-C to stop
Watching ./data/athletes.json...
```

The terminal also shows the output of the API call:

```
{
  "id": "1",
  "name": "Gerard Coleman",
  "country": "Ireland",
  "bio": "Ireland and Everton footballer",
  "age": 33,
  "pic": "coleman.png"
}
```

A green box highlights the note: "N.b. json-server looking at athletes.json inside data folder. Important to have correct path".

The browser shows the REST API demo at localhost:8080/athlete, displaying the JSON output of the API call.