

It's time to get hands on!

CSS Variables - Hands-on Exercise

Let's

rock!

🕒 15

Start Exercise

Skill

CSS

Sub Skill

Variables

Instruction

CSS Variables are a really incredible way to create reusable property values. You can define properties and values in one place and use them just like variables in computer languages like JavaScript. Variables promote reusability which is why a value can be set in one place and used repeatedly across rulesets.

You can either declare variables in a parent element's ruleset and can then access it in all child selectors or you can use the `:root` pseudo-class and access it anywhere in your stylesheet. In this exercise, you'll follow the latter and use the `:root` pseudo-class.

1. You'll notice three sets of text in a set of nested divs named `galaxy`, `solar-system` and `planets`. Your task is to declare CSS variables for color and background-color and use them in the three rulesets that are provided to you in the `src/styles.css` file.

2. In the `src/styles.css` file, begin by creating the `:root` pseudo-class to declare color and background-color variables and their values as shown below. Do this at the top of your stylesheet.

```
:root {
  --solar-system-text: rgb(154, 84, 154);
  --planets-text: rgb(151, 102, 10);
  --galaxy-text-color: #000;

  --galaxy-bg: #cb5e5e;
  --solar-system-bg: #fbe2e5;
  --planets-bg: #f4ca85;
}
```

3. Now that your variables have been declared, you can use them with the `var()` function. So, set the color and background-color property for the `galaxy` div as highlighted below.

```
.galaxy {
  color: var(--galaxy-text-color);
```

```
background-color: var(--galaxy-bg);  
padding: 20px;  
font-family: sans-serif;  
}
```

4. Next, in the same fashion, style the solar-system div as highlighted below.

```
.solar-system {  
  color: var(--solar-system-text);  
  background-color: var(--solar-system-bg);  
  padding: 10px;  
  margin-top: 20px;  
}
```

5. Finally, style the planets div as highlighted below.

```
.planets {  
  color: var(--planets-text);  
  background-color: var(--planets-bg);  
  padding: 10px;  
  margin-top: 20px;  
}
```

6. As you can see, variables are incredibly useful for declaring values at the top of your stylesheet and reusing them across. This promotes maintainability and allows you to style multiple elements using a common set of values easily.