

Day 14



Walking the DOM:

What is the DOM?

The DOM (Document Object Model) represents the HTML page as a tree structure. Each HTML element becomes a node (object) in that tree.

What Does “Walking the DOM” Mean?

Walking the DOM means moving through or navigating between HTML elements in that tree — like finding a parent, child, or sibling node using JavaScript. It helps us access and change any part of the web page.

Basic DOM Navigation Properties

Here are the main ways to “walk” or move through the DOM:

Property	Meaning	Example
document.body	Selects <body>	console.log(document.body)
element.parentNode	Goes to parent element	p.parentNode
element.children	Gets all child elements	body.children
element.firstElementChild	Gets first child	body.firstElementChild
element.lastElementChild	Gets last child	body.lastElementChild
element.nextElementSibling	Gets next element	h1.nextElementSibling
element.previousElementSibling	Gets previous element	p.previousElementSibling

Example HTML:

```
html
<html>
  <body>
    <h1>Hello</h1>
    <p>Welcome</p>
  </body>
</html>
```

[Copy code](#)

looks like this in DOM:

```
css
document
└── html
  └── body
    ├── h1
    └── p
```

[Copy code](#)

Accessing Children of an Element:

What Does “Children of an Element” Mean?

In HTML, elements are arranged in a tree structure. When one element is inside another, it becomes that element’s child.

Example:

```
<div id="parent">
  <p>Paragraph 1</p>
  <p>Paragraph 2</p>
</div>
```

Here:

- `<div>` is the parent
- Two `<p>` tags are its children

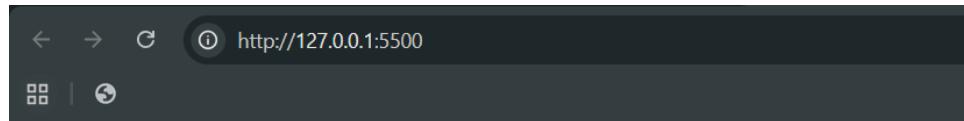
Accessing Children in JavaScript

To work with children, we first select the parent element, then use its child properties.

To understand this, let’s first create a basic page, index.html:

```
index.html > ...
1  <!DOCTYPE html>
2  <html>
3  <head>
4  |   <title>Accessing Children Example</title>
5  </head>
6  <body><div id="parent">
7  |   <h2>Heading</h2>
8  |   <p>First paragraph</p>
9  |   <p>Second paragraph</p>
10 | </div>
11 <script src="main.js"></script>
12 </body>
13 </html>
```

Output:

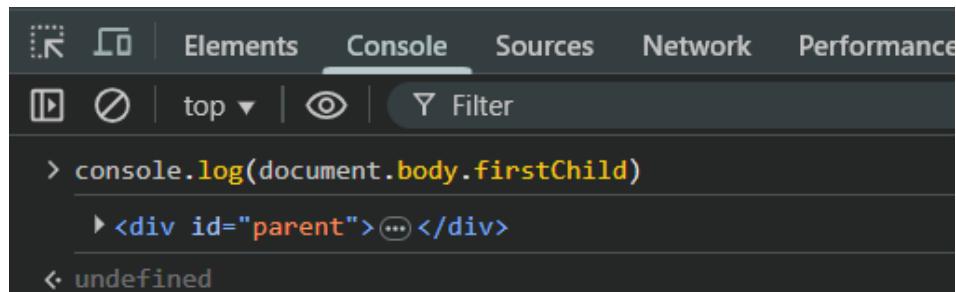


Heading

First paragraph

Second paragraph

Now, accessing it:



Also,



Also,



--The End--