Nicholas Skinner

CS493

Fall 2019

Assignment 3: Build a Restful API

**Link to REST service:**

[https://skinnern-cs493-project3.appspot.com](https://skinnern-cs493-project3.appspot.com/)

It gives a 500 error, but that’s because I don't have anything to populate the base URL, just /boats/ and /slips/

**Critiques:**

**page 6: "Modify a boat" or Edit a boat: PATCH /boats/:boat\_id**

I believe that PATCH is an acceptable method for this action. PATCH is used for partial updates, which is what this method is looking to do. It is looking to change components of an existing item, if we used something like a PUT, it would delete everything before writing over a new item. From the way we implemented it, the PATCH will be rejected unless we have all the required components, which feels more like a PUT action, but maybe I’m missing some greater context of what is happening.

I believe that the url follows the base RESTful principles, it uses a noun (boats) to narrow down to a specific category, and then uses more specific information (the id number) to select the specific boat to modify.

**page 14: A boat arrives at a slip: PUT /slips/:slip\_id/:boat\_id**

A PUT method seems appropriate for this action, we want to PUT the boat inside of the slip, PUT is used to create or replace data. A slip might be empty, and not have data inside of it, so a PATCH might not be applicable. In this case we would want to create an environment for the boat to be housed, which is what the PUT would be good for.

I believe that the url follows the base RESTful principles, it uses the slips category to narrow what is being talked about, it specifies the slip that it is interacting with, and then it selects the boat that it will be tied to the slip.

**page 15: A boat departs from a slip: DELETE /slips/:slip\_id/:boat\_id**

DELETE seems like an appropriate option when looking for a method to remove an id that we have passed. We are looking to remove the boat from the slip entirely, which is what DELETE will do. An alternative to the way we implemented it would be to PUT a null,this way the ship will depart, and the slip will be null, because it is empty.

I believe that the url follows the base RESTful principles, it uses the slips category to narrow what topic is being talked about, it specifies the individual slip that it is going to be interacting with, and then it selects the boat that it will be removed from the slip.