Class Components

Conceptually, components are like JavaScript functions. They accept arbitrary inputs (called “props”) and return React elements describing what should appear on the screen.

A React component is simply defined by a function that returns a React Element. Since the beginning, we've been writing functional components. But we can also write an ES6 Class that will return a React Element as well.

Class Component

When creating a Class Component there are a couple things we have to do in order for it to be a valid component. Each class must:

1. Have a name starting with a capital letter.
2. Extend React.Component.
3. Have a render() method that returns a React Element either by JSX or React.createElement(). Below, we are using JSX.

**SomeClassComponent.js**

import React, { Component } from 'react';

*class* SomeClassComponent *extends* *Component* {

    render() {

        return <div>This is our first class component.</div>;

    }

}

export default SomeClassComponent;