Programming PHP

PHP Topics

General Discussions

Re-cap of pevious lesson

Object Oriented Programming in PHP

Practice / Classroom coding

What are classes in OOP?

A blue print

A definition

A description of something in your program

A class defines two things

Properties - Variables

- Arrays
- Data

Methods

- Functions
- Behaviors

A class defines two things

Properties - Variables

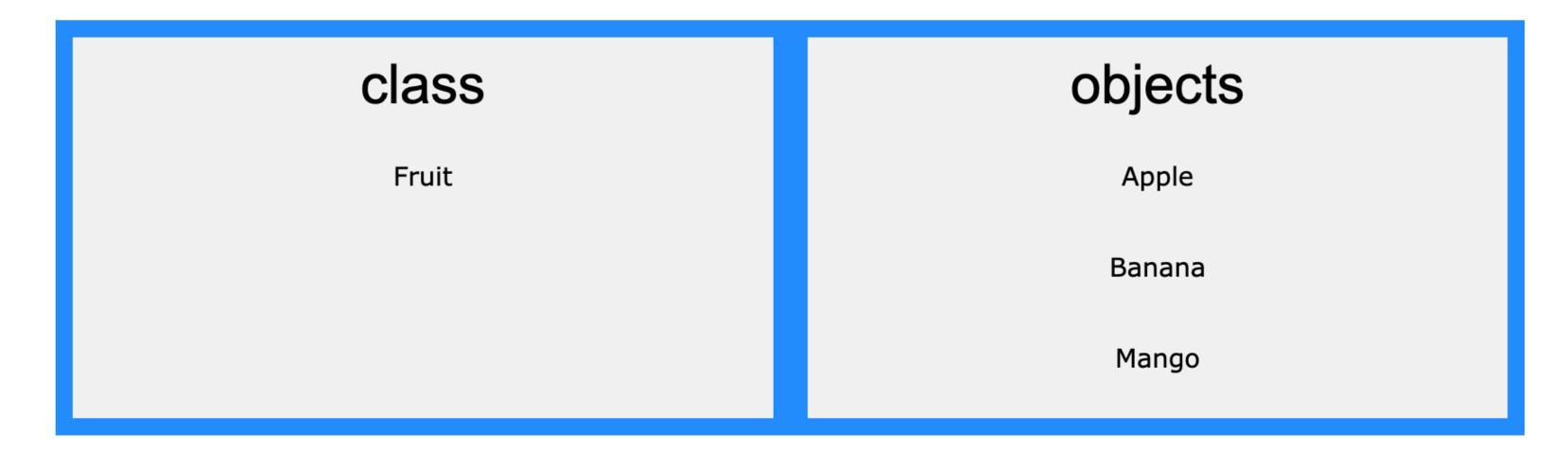
- Arrays
- Data

Methods

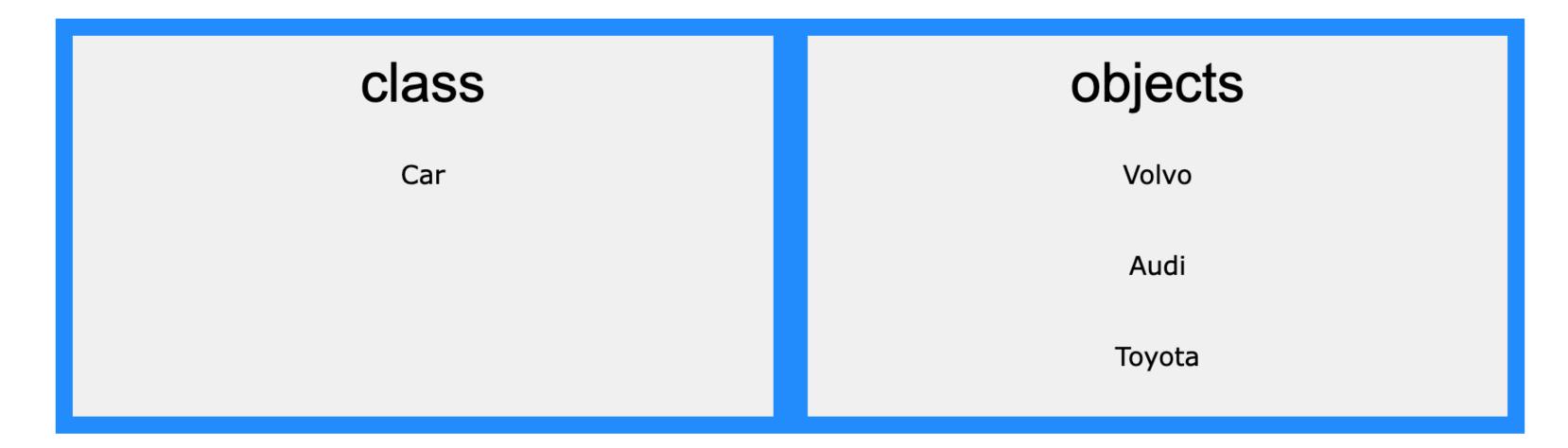
- Functions
- Behaviors

So a class describes what exactly?

an object

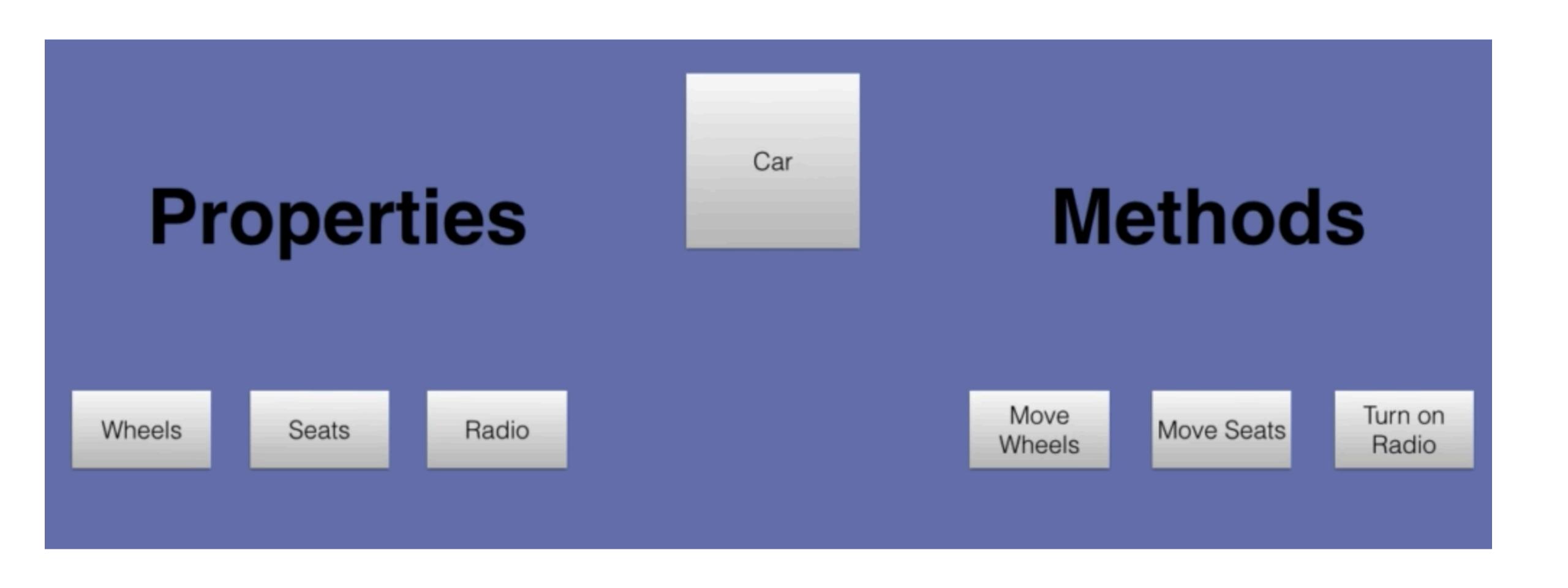


Another example:



And Object has Properties and Methods

e.g. object can be "Car"



Class in PHP

```
<?php
class Fruit {
  // Properties
  public $name;
  public $color;
  // Methods
  function set_name($name) {
    $this->name = $name;
  function get_name() {
    return $this->name;
```

Note: In a class, variables are called properties and functions are called methods!

Objects in PHP

Objects of a class is created using the new keyword.

```
<?php
class Fruit {
  // Properties
  public $name;
  public $color;
  // Methods
  function set_name($name) {
    $this->name = $name;
  function get_name() {
    return $this->name;
$apple = new Fruit();
$banana = new Fruit();
$apple->set_name('Apple');
$banana->set_name('Banana');
echo $apple->get_name();
echo "<br>";
echo $banana->get_name();
?>
```

PHP - \$this keyword

The \$this keyword refers to the current object, and is only available inside methods.

```
<?php
class Fruit {
  public $name;
}
$apple = new Fruit();
?>
```

So, where can we change the value of the \$name property?

PHP - \$this keyword

Two approaches:

1. Inside the class (by adding a set_name() method and use \$this):

```
<?php
class Fruit {
  public $name;
  function set_name($name) {
    $this->name = $name;
  }
}
$apple = new Fruit();
$apple->set_name("Apple");
echo $apple->name;
?>
```

PHP - \$this keyword

2. Outside the class (by directly changing the property value):

```
<?php
class Fruit {
  public $name;
}
$apple = new Fruit();
$apple->name = "Apple";
echo $apple->name;
?>
```

PHP - instanceof

You can use the instanceof keyword to check if an object belongs to a specific class:

```
<?php
$apple = new Fruit();
var_dump($apple instanceof Fruit);
?>
```

PHP - constructor

A constructor allows you to initialize an object's properties upon creation of the object.

If you create a <u>construct()</u> function, PHP will automatically call this function when you create an object from a class.

```
<?php
class Fruit {
  public $name;
  public $color;
  function ___construct($name) {
    $this->name = $name;
  function get_name() {
    return $this->name;
$apple = new Fruit("Apple");
echo $apple->get_name();
```

Notice that the construct function starts with two underscores (___)!

PHP - access modifiers

There are three access modifiers:

- public the property or method can be accessed from everywhere. This is default
- protected the property or method can be accessed within the class and by classes derived from that class
- private
 the property or method can ONLY be accessed within the class

```
<?php
class Fruit {
  public $name;
  protected $color;
  private $weight;
}

$mango = new Fruit();
$mango->name = 'Mango'; // OK
$mango->color = 'Yellow'; // ERROR
$mango->weight = '300'; // ERROR
?>
```

PHP - static data in classes

?>

```
Static properties can be called directly - without creating an instance of a class.
Static properties are declared with the static keyword:
<?php
class ClassName {
  public static $staticProp = "Programming PHP";
To access a static property use the class name, double colon (::), and the property
name:
ClassName::$staticProp;
<?php
class pi {
  public static $value = 3.14159;
// Get static property
echo pi::$value;
```

PHP - static data in classes

Static methods can be called directly - without creating an instance of the class first. Static methods are declared with the static keyword: <?php class ClassName { public static function staticMethod() { echo "Hello World!"; To access a static method use the class name, double colon (::), and the method name: ClassName::staticMethod(); <?php class greeting { public static function welcome() { echo "Hello World!"; // Call static method greeting::welcome();

Chapter Summary

- Objects group together variables and functions that represent something from the world around us.
- In an object, the variables are called properties and the functions are called methods.
- A class is used as a template to create objects.
- Class definitions set out the properties and methods that each object created using that class will have.
- The __construct() method runs when an object is created. It can be used to put values into properties.
- \$this access a property or method of this object.
- Properties can be declared as public (can be accessed by code outside the object) or protected (can only be used by code inside the object).
- Classes and objects help organize, re-use, maintain, and share code more effectively.

Practice / Classroom Coding

- PHP_practice01/10.php:
 - Create a simple class e.g. Dog in PHP
 - Set some properties, make methods, instantiate the class
- PHP_practice06/oop/section_a/c04/constructor-methods.php
 - Write PHP code using constructors with a class as shown below

