

ENV Variables in Kubernetes

How to set environment variables in K8S

`docker run -e APP_COLOR=pink simple-webapp-color`

(Annotations: 'name' points to APP_COLOR, 'value' points to pink)

⇒ Given a pod-definition file which uses the "same image" as the docker command

To set an environment variable

⇒ use the ENV property

⇒ ENV is an array, so every item under the ENV property starts with an hyphen(-) indicating an item in the array

⇒ Each item has a "name" & a "value" property

⇒ The name is the name of the environment variable made available with the container & the value is its "value". The below manifest file is about configuring env-variable in pod-definition file

apiVersion: v1

kind: Pod

metadata:

name: simple-webapp-color

spec:

containers:

- name: simple-webapp-color

image: simple-webapp-color

ports:

- containerPort: 8080

env:

- name: APP_COLOR # name of the environment variable

value: pink # value of the environment variable

This is the direct way of specifying the environment variable using the plain key value pair format

ENV Value Types

1) Plain Key Value

env:

- name: APP_COLOR

value: pink

2) ConfigMap

env:

- name: APP_COLOR

valueFrom:

configMapKeyRef:

3) Secrets

env:

- name: APP_COLOR

valueFrom:

secretKeyRef:

The difference is that instead of specifying value, we say "value from" & then a specification of ConfigMap or secret