

WebGL

Now Is The Time To Start Paying Attention

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<http://developer.blackberry.com/>



Erik Oros

Background

- Application Development Consultant with Developer Relations team.
- Initial focus was with BlackBerry Java.
- Transitioned to HTML5 and loving it.

On The Web

- @BlackBerryDev ^EO
- @WaterlooErik
- oros (BlackBerry Support Forms)

Dustin Malik

- Work for RIM in Developer Relations
- 7 Years of Flash Experience at RIM (Primarily Flash IDE)
- 1 Month with Developer Relations
- Twitter - @dustinmalik

WebGL

What Is It? What Can It Do For You?

What Is It?

WebGL is OpenGL ES 2.0 in your Web Browser

- Khronos open standard
- Hardware accelerated graphics for the web
- It's fully integrated. It is NOT a plugin.
- Version 1.0 released March 2011



Where Can I Use It?

It runs in any standards compliant browser.

- Chrome
- Firefox
- Safari
- Opera



What About Mobile Devices?

- Runs on BlackBerry PlayBook
- Will run on future BlackBerry 10 devices
- iOS and Android support is coming soon



Why Is It Cool?

- Rapid Prototyping
 - You can write it in JavaScript and view it live in a web browser vs writing in C++ and compiling.
- Cross platform
- Many JavaScript developers out there

Using WebGL

The Basic Steps

You can use WebGL by following this outline:

1. Create a Canvas
2. Get a WebGL context
3. Setup a GLSL program
4. Buffer Geometry
5. Setup Shaders
6. Render

1. Create A Canvas

```
<canvas id="myCanvas" width="1024" height="512" ></canvas>
```

2. Get A WebGL Context

```
var canvas = document.getElementById( "myCanvas" );  
var gl = canvas.getContext( "experimental-webgl" );
```

3. Setup A GLSL Program

```
var vertexShader = createShaderFromScriptElement(gl, "2d-vertex-shader");  
  
var fragmentShader = createShaderFromScriptElement(gl, "2d-fragment-shader");  
  
var program = createProgram(gl, [vertexShader, fragmentShader]);  
  
gl.useProgram(program);  
  
var positionLocation = gl.getAttributeLocation(program, "a_position");
```

4. Buffer Geometry

```
var buffer = gl.createBuffer();
gl.bindBuffer(gl.ARRAY_BUFFER, buffer);
gl.bufferData(
    gl.ARRAY_BUFFER,
    new Float32Array([
        -1.0, -1.0,
        1.0, -1.0,
        -1.0, 1.0,
        -1.0, 1.0,
        1.0, -1.0,
        1.0, 1.0]),
    gl.STATIC_DRAW);
gl.enableVertexAttribArray(positionLocation);
gl.vertexAttribPointer(positionLocation, 2, gl.FLOAT, false, 0, 0);
```

5. Setup Shaders

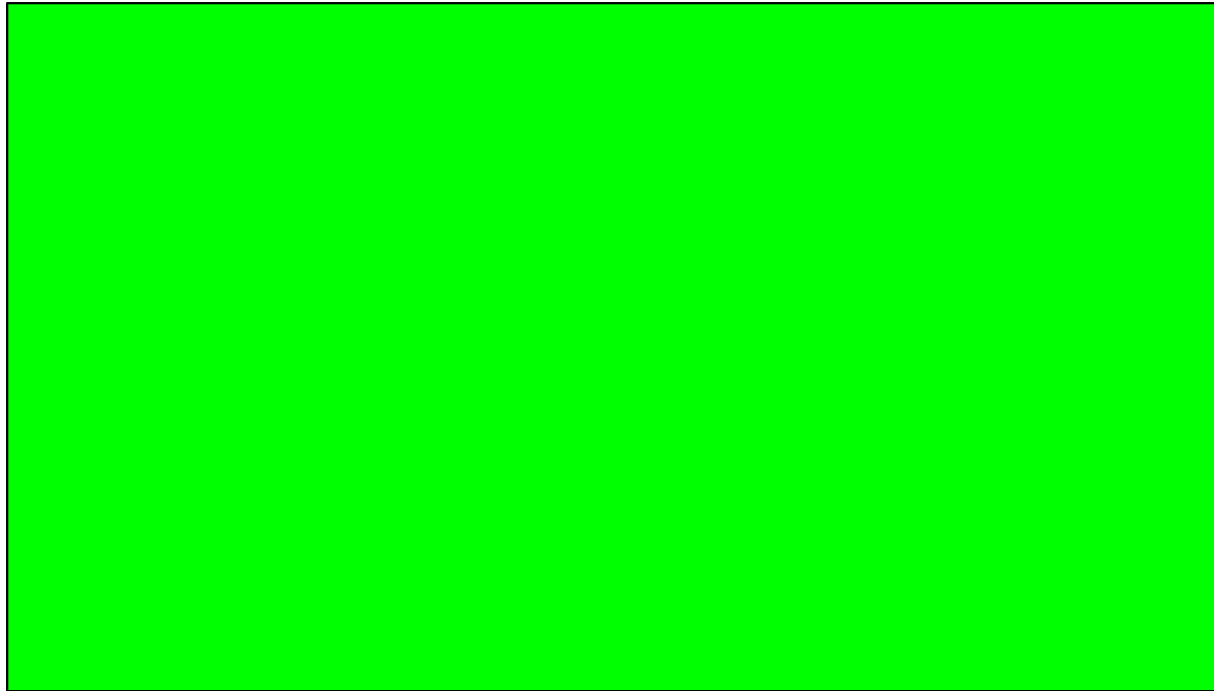
```
<script id="2d-vertex-shader" type="x-shader/x-vertex">  
attribute vec2 a_position;
```

```
void main() {  
    gl_Position = vec4(a_position, 0, 1);  
}  
</script>
```

```
<script id="2d-fragment-shader" type="x-shader/x-fragment">  
void main() {  
    gl_FragColor = vec4(0,1,0,1); // green  
}  
</script>
```

6. Render

```
gl.drawArrays(gl.TRIANGLES, 0, 6);
```



Using WebGL With Three.js

The Basic Steps

With Three.js we can minimize the complexity of WebGL. The Three.js workflow is as follows:

1. Import Three.js
2. Setup scene
3. Setup camera
4. Add geometry with material
5. Render scene

1. Import Three.js

```
<script src="js/Three.js"></script>
```

2. Setup Scene

```
scene = new THREE.Scene();
```

3. Setup Camera

```
scene = new THREE.Scene();
```

```
camera = new THREE.PerspectiveCamera( 75, window.innerWidth /  
window.innerHeight, 1, 10000 );  
camera.position.z = 1000;  
scene.add( camera );
```

4. Add Geometry With Material

```
scene = new THREE.Scene();
```

```
camera = new THREE.PerspectiveCamera( 75, window.innerWidth /  
window.innerHeight, 1, 10000 );  
camera.position.z = 1000;  
scene.add( camera );
```

```
geometry = new THREE.CubeGeometry( 1024, 600, 0 );  
material = new THREE.MeshBasicMaterial( { color: 0x00FF00, wireframe: false }  
);  
mesh = new THREE.Mesh( geometry, material );  
scene.add( mesh );
```

5. Render Scene

```
scene = new THREE.Scene();
```

```
camera = new THREE.PerspectiveCamera( 75, window.innerWidth /  
window.innerHeight, 1, 10000 );  
camera.position.z = 1000;  
scene.add( camera );
```

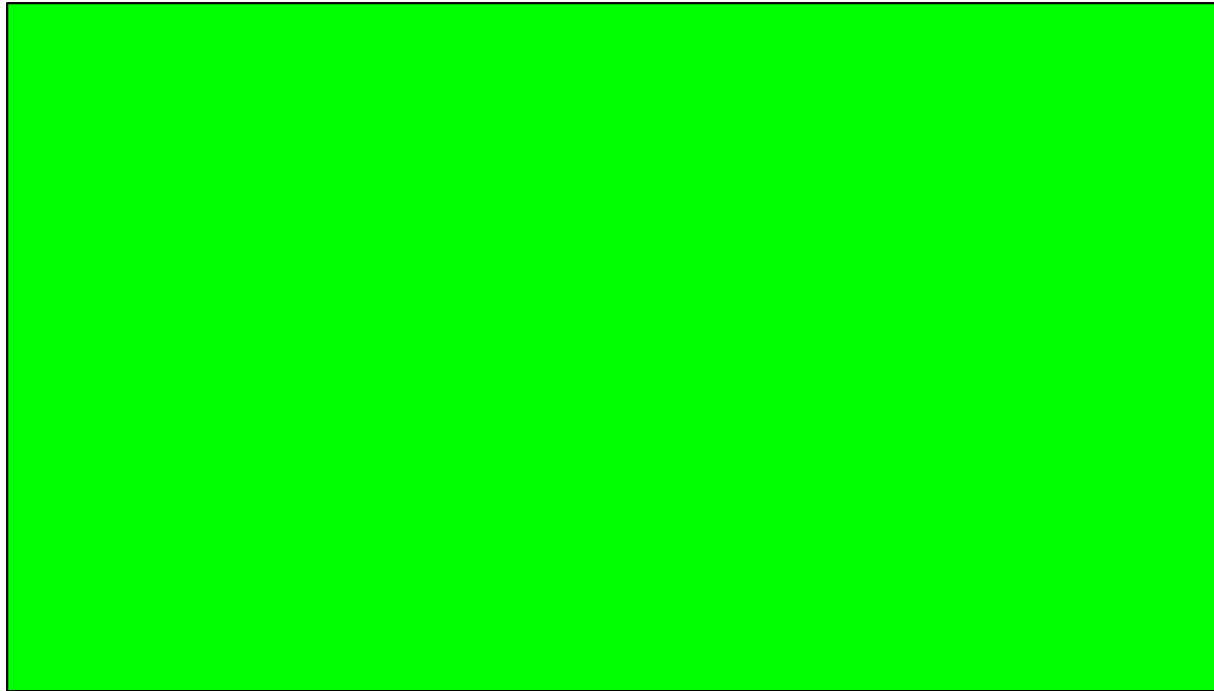
```
geometry = new THREE.CubeGeometry( 1024, 600, 0 );  
material = new THREE.MeshBasicMaterial( { color: 0x00FF00, wireframe: false }  
);  
mesh = new THREE.Mesh( geometry, material );  
scene.add( mesh );
```

```
renderer = new THREE.CanvasRenderer();  
renderer.setSize( window.innerWidth, window.innerHeight );  
document.body.appendChild( renderer.domElement );  
renderer.render( scene, camera );
```

Same Result, Fewer Lines Of Code

Raw WebGL = 47 lines of code

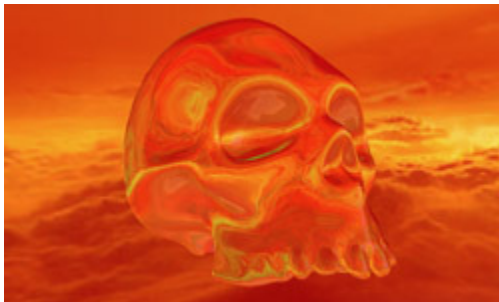
Three.js = 26 lines of code



J3D

J3D was created by Bartek Drozd as an experiment vs a production environment.

- Still actively contributing in Github
- Has support to export Unity scenes
- github.com/drojdjou/J3D



Demo

http://www.everyday3d.com/j3d/demo/008_Lightmap.html

Inka3D

Inka3D allows you to export Maya scenes into WebGL.

- Does all the heavy lifting
- Allows you to easily manipulate the models you export from Maya using JavaScript
- Not open source ☹
- Inka3d.com



TunnelTilt

In The Beginning

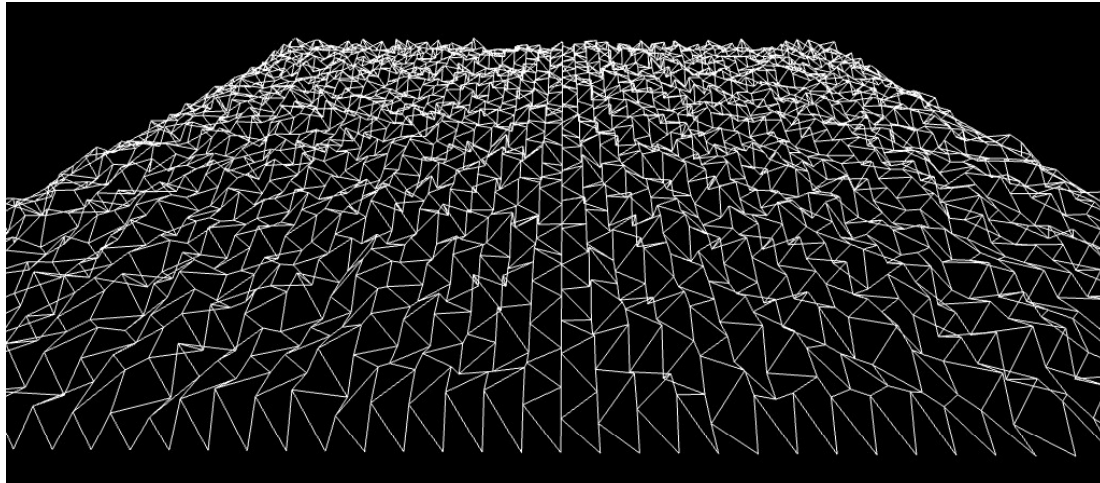


- First WebGL demo released for PlayBook OS 2.0
- Available on BlackBerry App World
- Open-sourced on www.github.com/blackberry
- Key Features: Accelerometer and Collision Detection
- Honourable mention: Balloon Gunner 3D

PeaksAndValleys

My WebGL Journey

Frameworks vs Pure WebGL

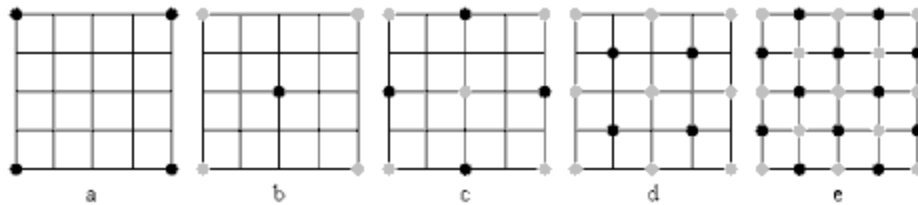


- [three.js](#) by [mrdoob](#) (Github)
- [glMatrix](#) by [toji](#) (Github)
- [virtualjoystick.js](#) by [jeromeetienne](#) (Github)
- [bullet.js](#) by [adambom](#) (Github)
- [jiglibjs](#) by [jiglibjs.org](#)

Frameworks will be revisited.

Generating The Landscape

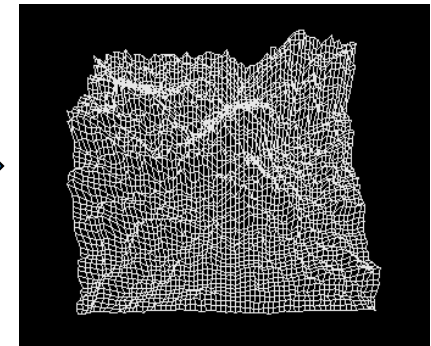
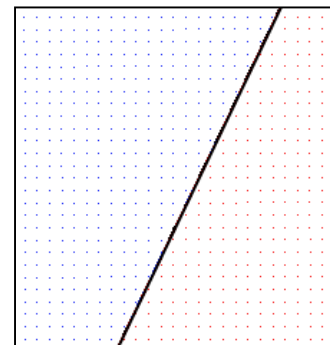
Diamond-Square Fractal Algorithm¹



Fault Algorithm²

Raised Zones

- Generate a square.
- Raise all included vertices.
- Repeat.
- Average with neighbours.



1 - <http://www.gameprogrammer.com/fractal.html>

2 - <http://www.lighthouse3d.com/opengl/terrain/index.php3?fault>

Generating The Skybox

- Two easy steps:
 - ▶ Paint the inside of a box
 - ▶ Place box on head
- Works in real life too!
- Many pre-generated textures
- Size limitations: 1024 x 1024
- The magic happens with:
`gl.disable(gl.DEPTH_TEST);`
Don't forget to turn this back on.

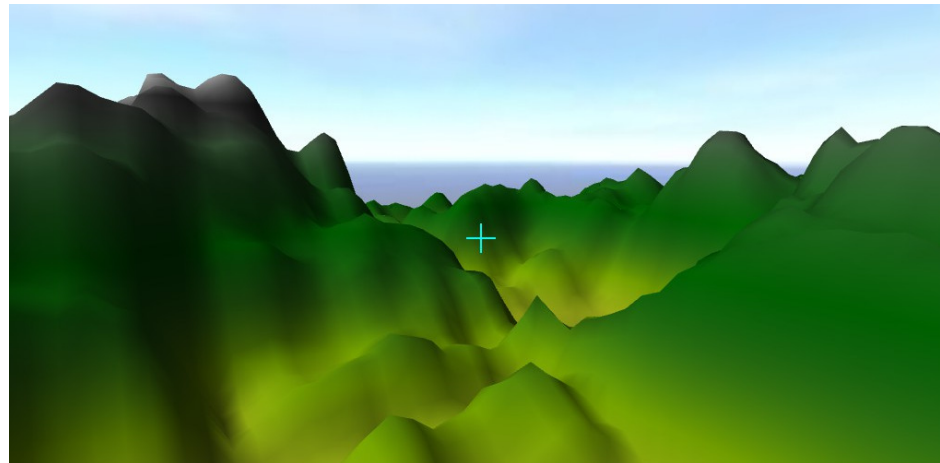


Image from: <http://neverwateraweed.blogspot.ca/2011/08/hey-box-head.html>

Blending Colours And Textures

- Fragment shader blends our colours and shadows.

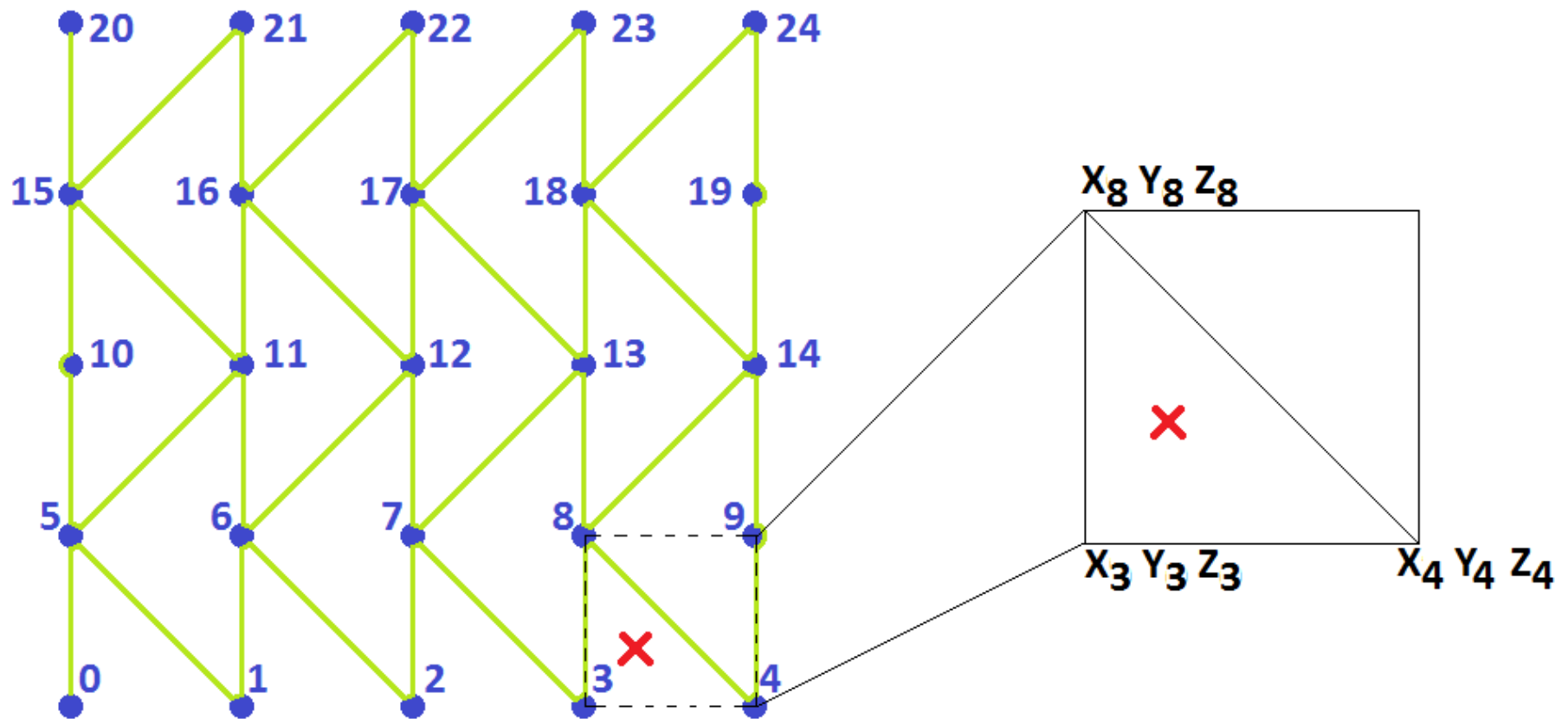
```
void main(void) {  
    vec4 diffuseSand = vec4(0.8, 1.0, 0.0, 1.0);  
    vec4 diffuseGrass = vec4(0.0, 1.0, 0.0, 1.0);  
    vec4 diffuseRock = vec4(0.4, 0.4, 0.4, 1.0);  
    vec4 diffuseSnow = vec4(1.0, 1.0, 1.0, 1.0);  
    vec4 color = vec4(1.0, 1.0, 1.0, 1.0);  
  
    color = mix(diffuseSand, color, min(abs( 400.0 - vPosition.y) / 500.0, 1.0));  
    color = mix(diffuseGrass, color, min(abs( 800.0 - vPosition.y) / 200.0, 1.0));  
    color = mix(diffuseRock, color, min(abs(1000.0 - vPosition.y) / 300.0, 1.0));  
    color = mix(diffuseSnow, color, min(abs(1200.0 - vPosition.y) / 300.0, 1.0));  
  
    gl_FragColor = vec4(color.rgb * vLightWeighting, color.a);  
}
```



Special thanks to : <http://chandler.prallfamily.com/2011/06/blending-webgl-textures>

Exploring The World

- Expanded on [virtualjoystick.js](#) for multi-touch
- Minimize triangles via `gl.TRIANGLE_STRIP`



Development Tools

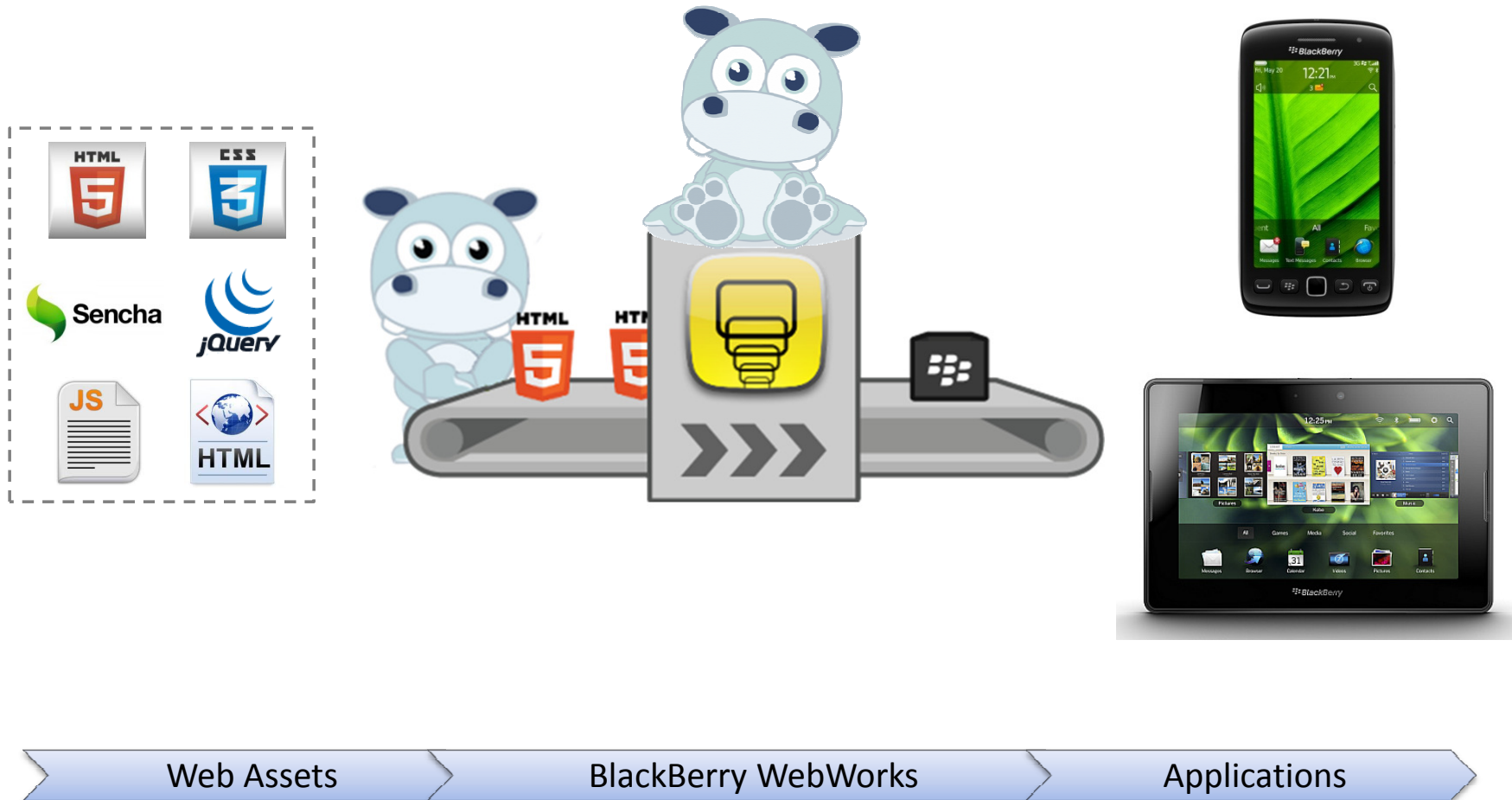
<http://developer.blackberry.com/html5>

- BlackBerry WebWorks SDK
- Ripple Emulator
- Smartphone/Tablet Simulators
- Code Signing Keys



BlackBerry®

Putting It All Together



The Future of WebGL

The Spirit Of The Web

- Open, collaborative community.
- Use, enhance, contribute.

Comes naturally to seasoned web developers.

The Spirit Of The Web At RIM

- Many open source initiatives via [Github](#)
- Initial [TunnelTilt](#) sample open sourced
- [Inka3D](#) and [PeaksAndValleys](#) samples
 - Open source and tutorials to follow
- Contributions have begun to [three.js](#)
- Continued commitment to [HTML5](#) for both end users and developers alike

<http://devblog.blackberry.com>

<http://www.github.com/blackberry>

<http://developer.blackberry.com>

The Future of WebGL

- Depends on what happens today.
- Not sufficient to blindly implement technologies born on the desktop.
- APIs and Frameworks need to be brought over responsibly.
- Show a need for these technologies by participating in them today.
- Chrome experiments.



Thank You

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