

Consuming a Web API

This lesson gives an introduction to Web Application Interface or widely known as web API.

WE'LL COVER THE FOLLOWING ^

- Checking out an API

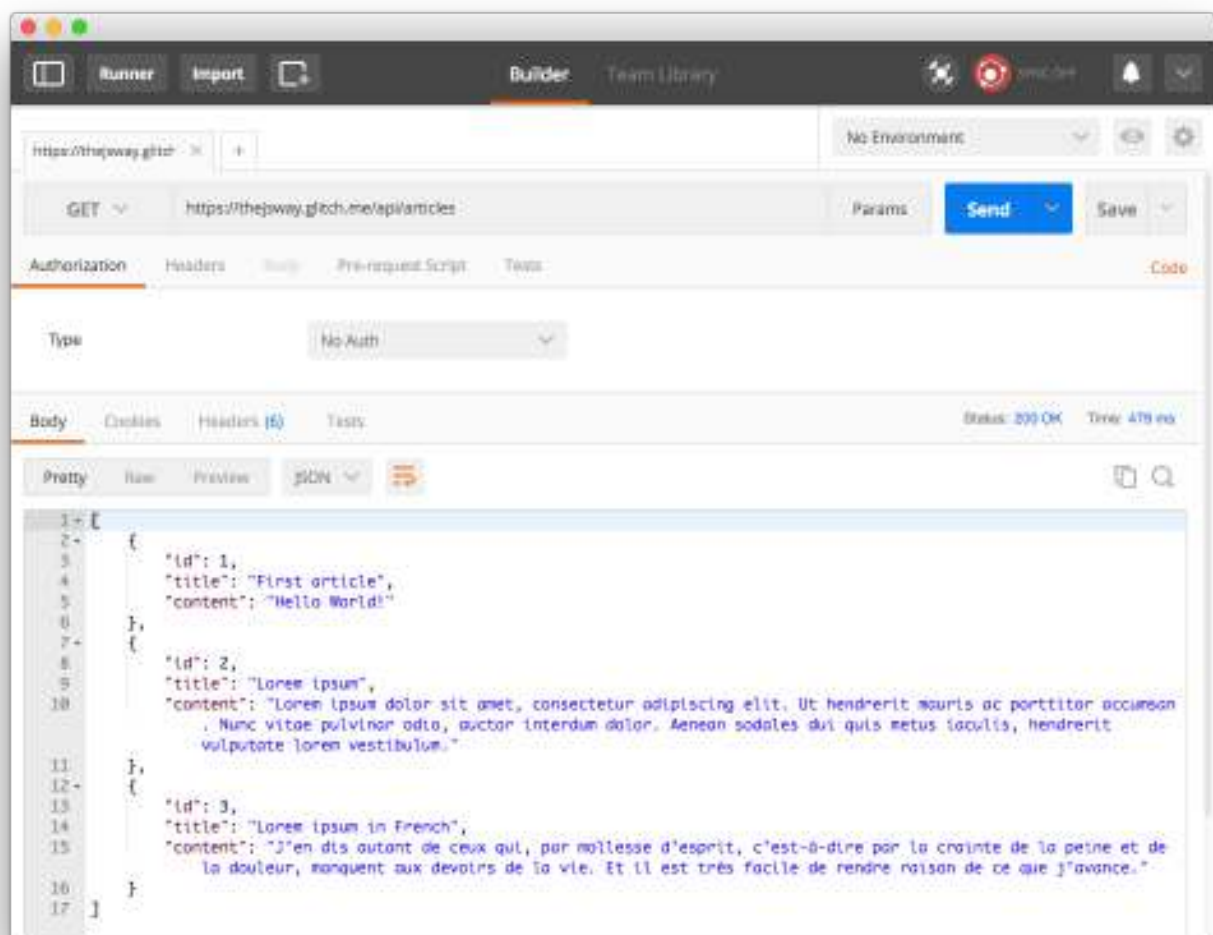
To be able to use a web API, you have to know its address and its usage mode. Most of web APIs are accessible via an URL and use the JSON format for data exchanges.

Checking out an API

The first web API you'll use here simulates a blog and exposes a series of articles. Its URL is <https://thejsway-server.herokuapp.com/api/articles>. Opening it in a browser shows the JSON data returned by the API.



This raw result is not easy to read. For an easier interaction with web API, using a specialized tool like [Postman](#) or [RESTClient](#) is strongly recommended. Here's how the result looks like on Postman.



This web API returns an array containing some articles. Each article corresponds to a JavaScript object with `id`, `title` and `content` properties.

Curious about creating such an API? You'll learn how to build this very service (and others) in an upcoming chapter.

Real-world APIs are almost always accompanied by an online *documentation* showing how to use it. Studying this documentation is essential for using the API flawlessly.