Lesson 5: Diving Deeper into React Native

Creating a Feed

Karl Steven Velasco Orjalo

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React Native Quickstart

Lesson Outline

1. Exploring JSON, JavaScript Object Notation

2. Creating an Article thumbnail

3. Displaying multiple Articles

4. Making everything look good

Exploring JSON, JavaScript Object Notation

We'll be using an online service to convert the New York Times' RSS feed to a JSON object.

It is accessible through the link
`https://www.toptal.com/developers/feed2json/`
`convert?url=https%3A%2F%2Frss.nytimes.com%`
`2Fservices%2Fxml%2Frss%2Fnyt%2FHomePage.xml`.

Getting the news (cont.)

Under `result.items`, we can see that we now have an array of articles. The format of each article is as below:

```json
{
  "guid": "some-link.html",
  "url": "some-link.html",
  "title": "Article Title",
  "content_html": "Some Text",
  "summary": "Some Text",
  "date_published": "2023-05-16T00:08:31.000Z",
  "author": {
    "name": "Mark Landler"
  }
},
```

Creating an Article thumbnail

Displaying a single Article

In `./src/components/`, create a file called `articleThumbnail.jsx`.

Enter the following code:

```jsx
import React from 'react'
import {View, Text} from 'react-native'

const ArticleThumbnail = ({item}) => {
  return(
    <View>
      <Text>{item.title}</Text>
      <Text>{item.summary}</Text>
      <Text>{item.date_published}</Text>
      <Text>{item.author.name}</Text>
    </View>
  )
}

export default ArticleThumbnail
```

We'll now bring in our Component into
`./src/pages/Home.jsx`.

```
import ArticleThumbnail from '../components/articleThumbnail'

const Home = () => {
  return (
    <View style={globalStyles.container}>
      <Button onPress={()=>{console.log("Button pressed!")}} />
      <ArticleThumbnail />
    </View>
  )
}
```

Next, create an object called `newsItem` with a single article. You can choose any from the provided link a couple slides back.

Put the following code above your `Home` const.

```
const newsItem = {
  "guid": "some-link.html",
  "url": "some-link.html",
  "title": "Article Title",
  "content_html": "Some Text",
  "summary": "Some Text",
  "date_published": "2023-05-16T00:08:31.000Z",
  "author": {
    "name": "Mark Landler"
  }
}
```

Now, let's give `newsItem` to our `<ArticleThumbnail />`.

```
<ArticleThumbnail item={newsItem} />
```

Displaying multiple Articles

In `./src/pages/Home.jsx`, add 2 more articles to your `newsItem`.

Hint: `newsItem` is now an Array of Objects!

Rendering multiple ArticleThumbnails

We are able to make as many `<ArticleThumbnail />` instances as needed through a `<Flatlist />`.

Replace your singlular `<ArticleThumbnail />` with a `<FlatList />`.

Make sure to import `FlatList` from `'react-native'`!

```
import {View, FlatList} from 'react-native'

<FlatList
  data={newsItem}
  renderItem={({ item }) => <ArticleThumbnail item={item} />}
/>
```

The `<Button />` is blocking our `FlatList` when we attempt to scroll down.

Where should we move our `<Button />` instead?

Now as you can see, we have some white space when scrolling our `FlatList` down.

Find out which of the style properties in `./src/styles/globalStyles` is causing this behaviour.

Making everything look good

Styling our ArticleThumbnail

On your own, find a mobile app that displays Articles and copy their style. (20mins)

Feel free to ask any questions!

End of Lesson

Questions? Reach out at: karlorjalo@gmail.com