

Practice!

I choose to expand on the to do app to further study programming with node. The structure of the app followed closely to the class examples. I used a JavaScript file to build a main express page. I then set up routes with express handlebars to error pages, a new session page, and a page for handling a to do list. To connect to the Open Weather Api, I included a get route that would make a request for weather when a new item was added to the to-do list. If the returned weather for the user input zip code was within the range of the item's minimum and maximum temperature it's background was set to green. If not, it's background was set to red. Each item had a button that allowed the user to remove it from the list.

I ran in to several major problems throughout this practice. The first and probably most time consuming of which was a JSON bug. When a user would add an item the fields for name, zip, min temp, and max temp, would only show the item's name and not the other fields. I never did find the solution to this which ended up severely breaking my application. I checked and rechecked syntax, inputs, passed values, everything I could think of. Nothing solved my bug and only the name of each item was displayed correctly, the rest remained blank.... Until now! As I was writing this I was thinking of what I had yet to check. I found the solution by adding context to a parameter and this fixed it. I also ran in to trouble dealing with the Open Weather API. I initially tried to use a separate JS file for handing an ajax request but eventually coded it in to a separate route. It ended up working but I'm not sure if this was the ideal way to handle this or if it should be referenced as it's own file.

I think areas I struggle the most are in dealing with Json and context. These seem like pretty unique characteristics and I definitely need more practice understanding them. I also need more practice in handling calls to API's and dealing with there json. I find the breadth of material to be difficult. I find when I am programming for this class it is difficult to know where to start. We cover a pretty significant amount of material each week and I think to retain this material I will need more practice.