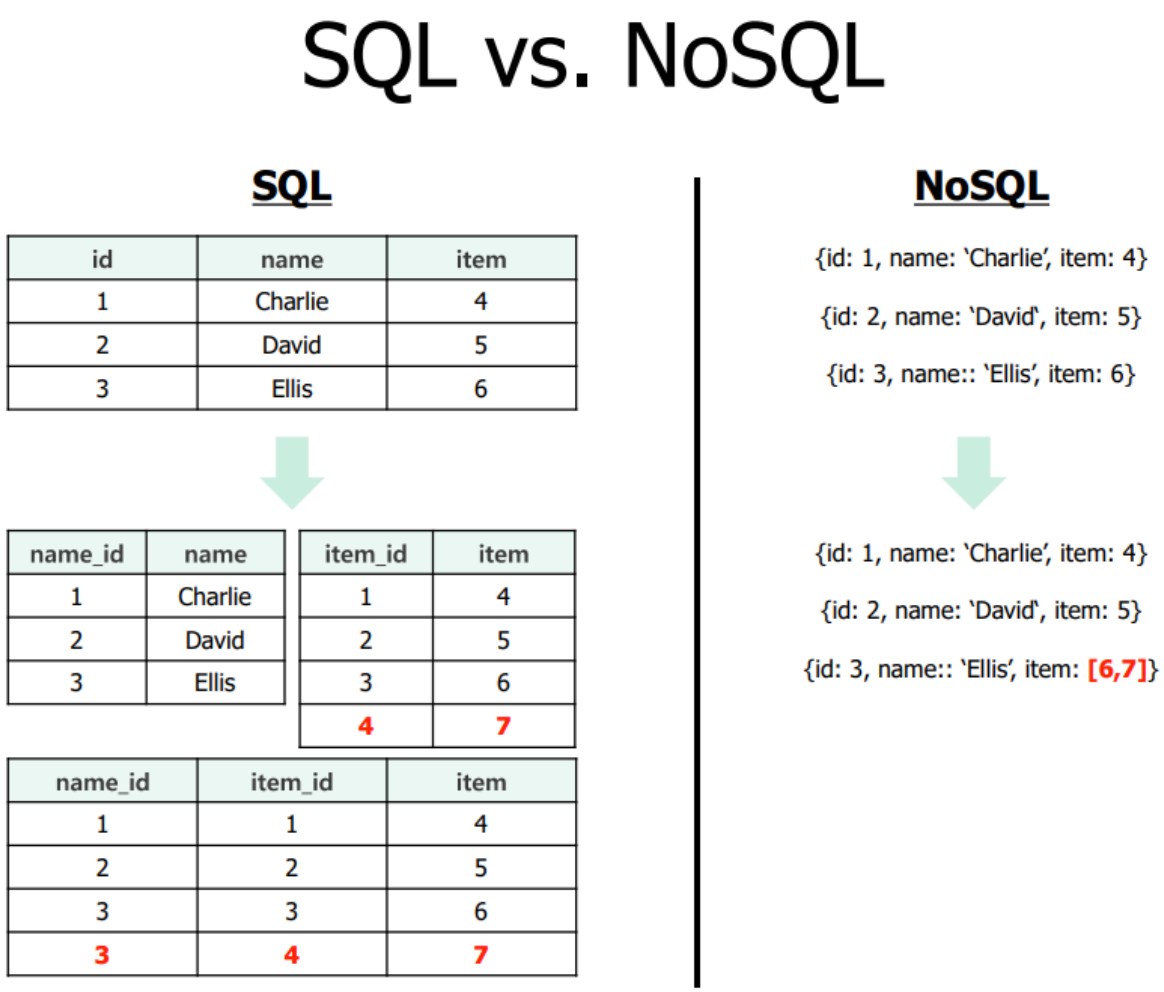
Exercise #1: Introduction to NoSQL

This practical exercise is intended to make you reason about the differences of principles between classic Relational Database Management Systems and NoSQL servers for building and managing data.

Expect to be able to:

- Point out some of their principles concerning: data model, design process, internal and external data management, architecture;
- Compare these principles with those of classic RDBMS.



In this exercise you will populate and query a NoSQL database from a traditional relational database. You will use the classical Northwind example from Microsoft to migrate from a relational database to a NoSQL cloud database.

Northwind Traders Access database is a sample database that shipped with Microsoft Office suite. The Northwind database contains the sales data for a fictitious company called Northwind Traders, which imports and exports specialty foods from around the world. Developers (back in the 90's) used it to learn the MS Access product and it has been implemented in other technologies (SQL Server, for example).

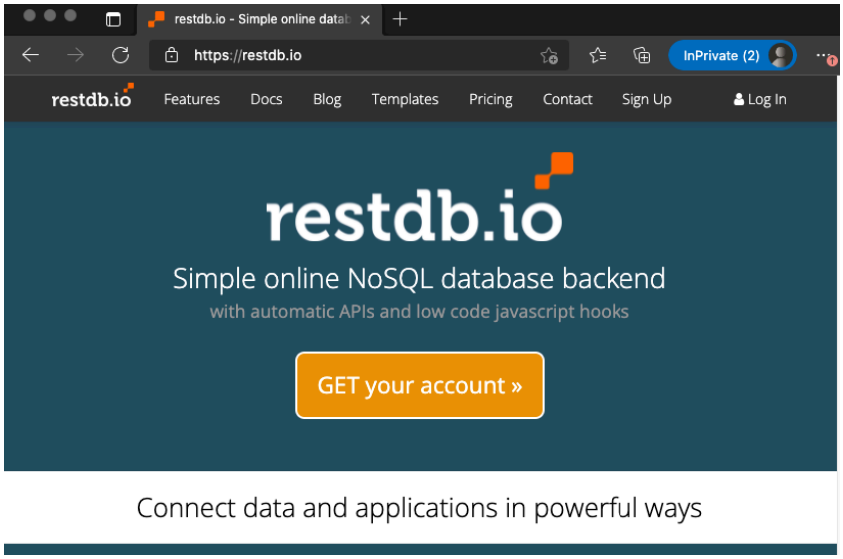
Tasks:

- Register to a NoSQL cloud database service.
- Create a NoSQL database
- Create collections
- Map relations between collections
- See JSON data
- Use the API

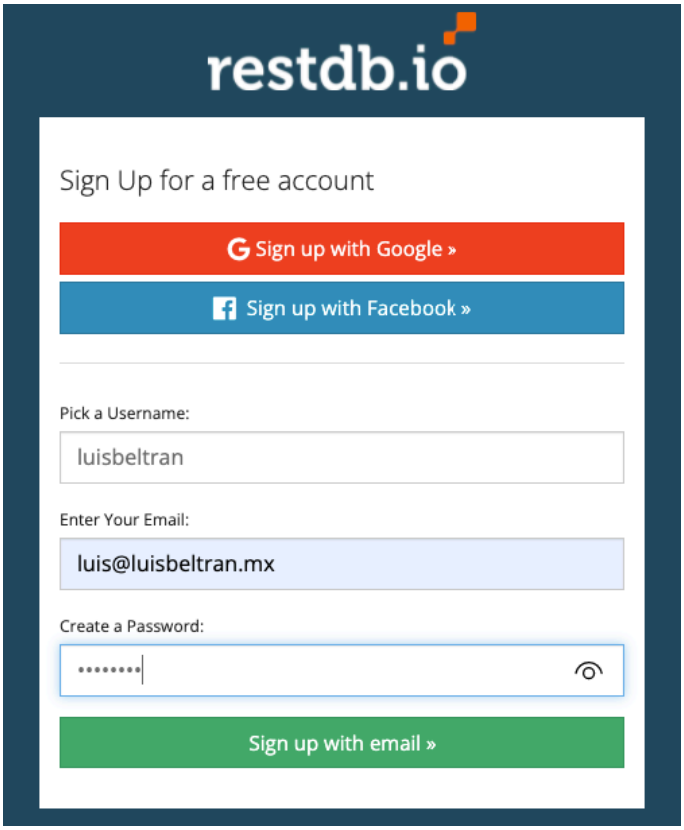
Task 1. Register to a NoSQL cloud database service

Restdb.io is a NoSQL cloud database service built with Node.js and MongoDB. With restdb.io you get schema, relations, REST API and an efficient multi-user admin UI for working with data.

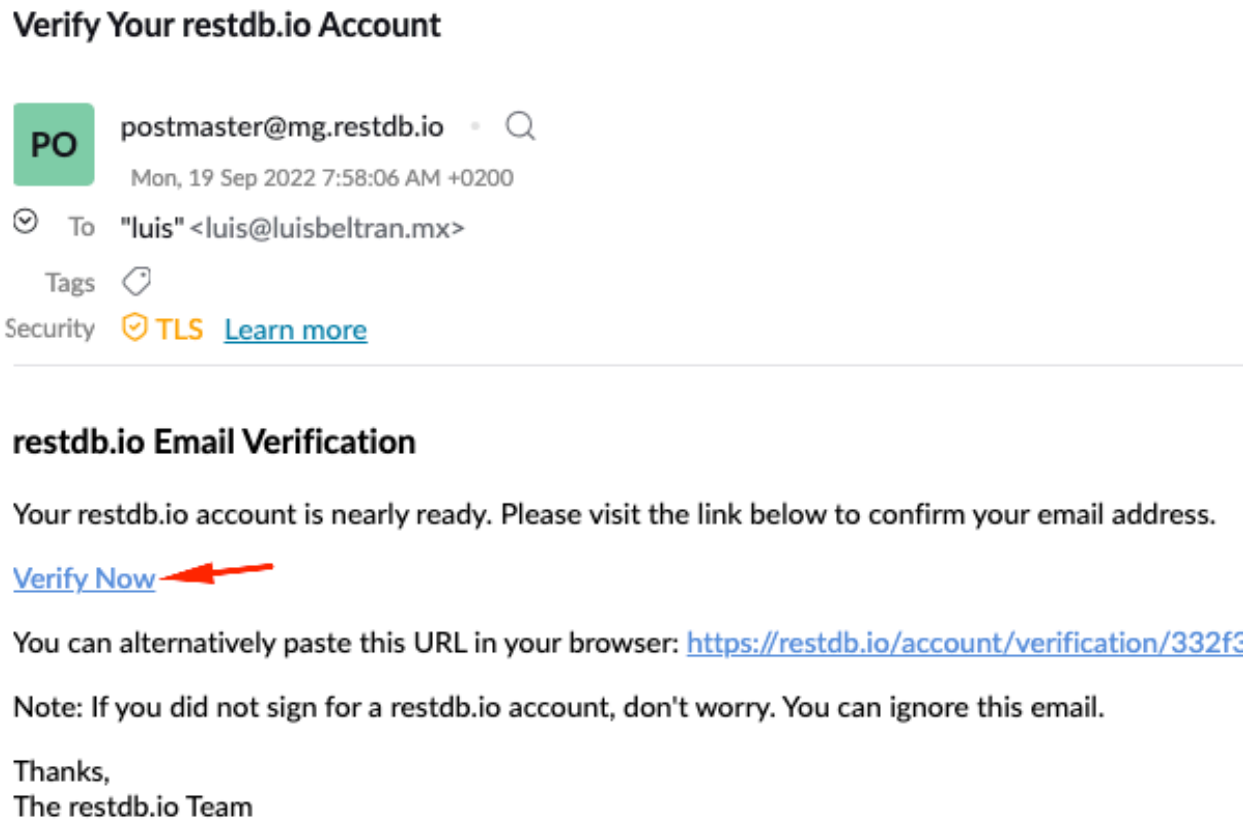
1.1 Visit RestDB website (https://restdb.io/) and sign up for a free account by clicking on **GET your account**.



1.2 Enter the account information:



1.3 Verify your account. You will receive an email verification message (check your inbox or spam folder).



Verify Your restdb.io Account

PO postmaster@mg.restdb.io

Mon, 19 Sep 2022 7:58:06 AM +0200

To "luis" <luis@luisbeltran.mx>

Tags

Security TLS Learn more

restdb.io Email Verification

Your restdb.io account is nearly ready. Please visit the link below to confirm your email address.

Verify Now

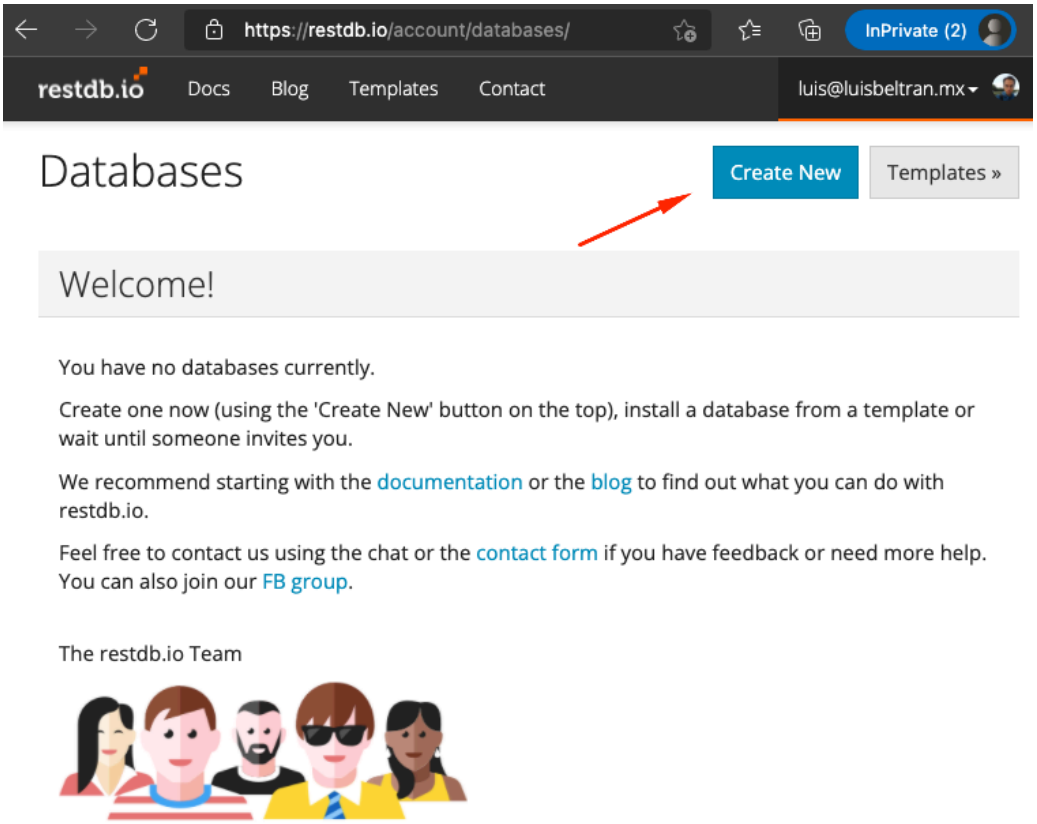
You can alternatively paste this URL in your browser: https://restdb.io/account/verification/332f3

Note: If you did not sign for a restdb.io account, don't worry. You can ignore this email.

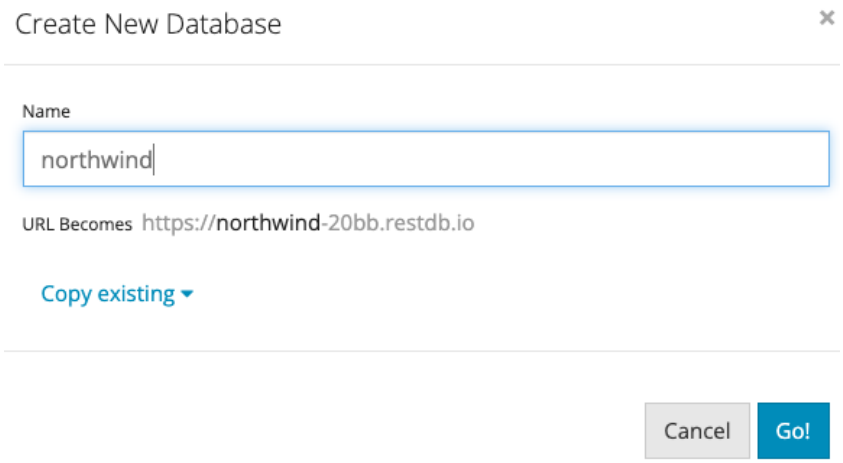
Thanks,
The restdb.io Team

Task 2. Create a NoSQL database

2.1 Click on Create New in order to add a new database in your account

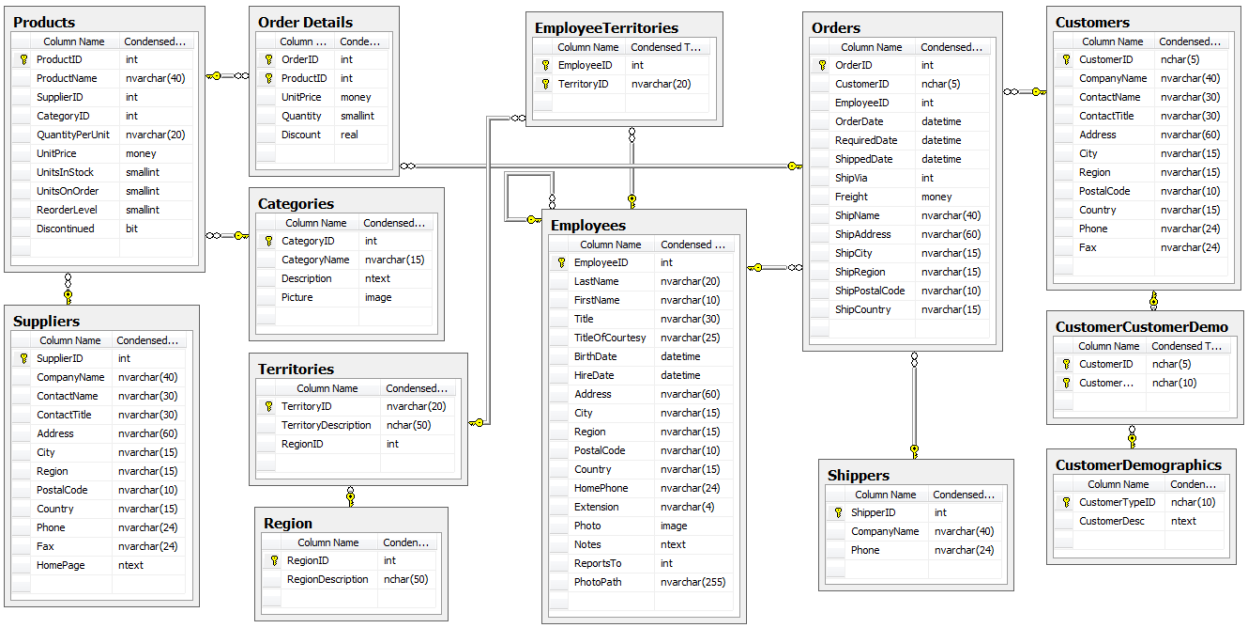


2.2 The database name will be **northwind**

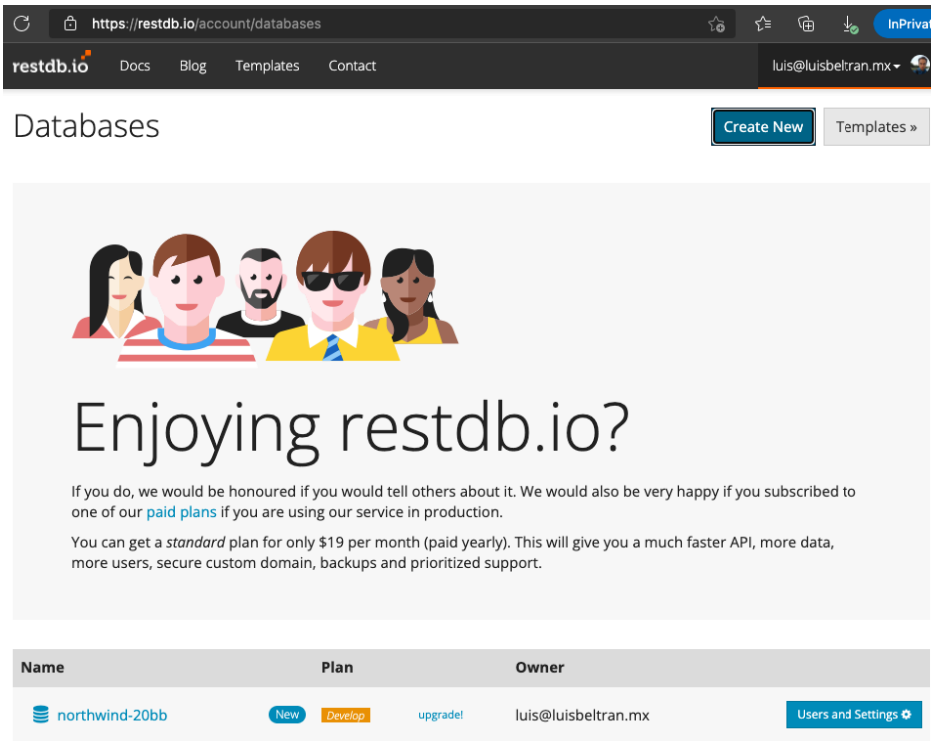


Task 3. Create collections

The Northwind relational data schema is shown in the picture below.

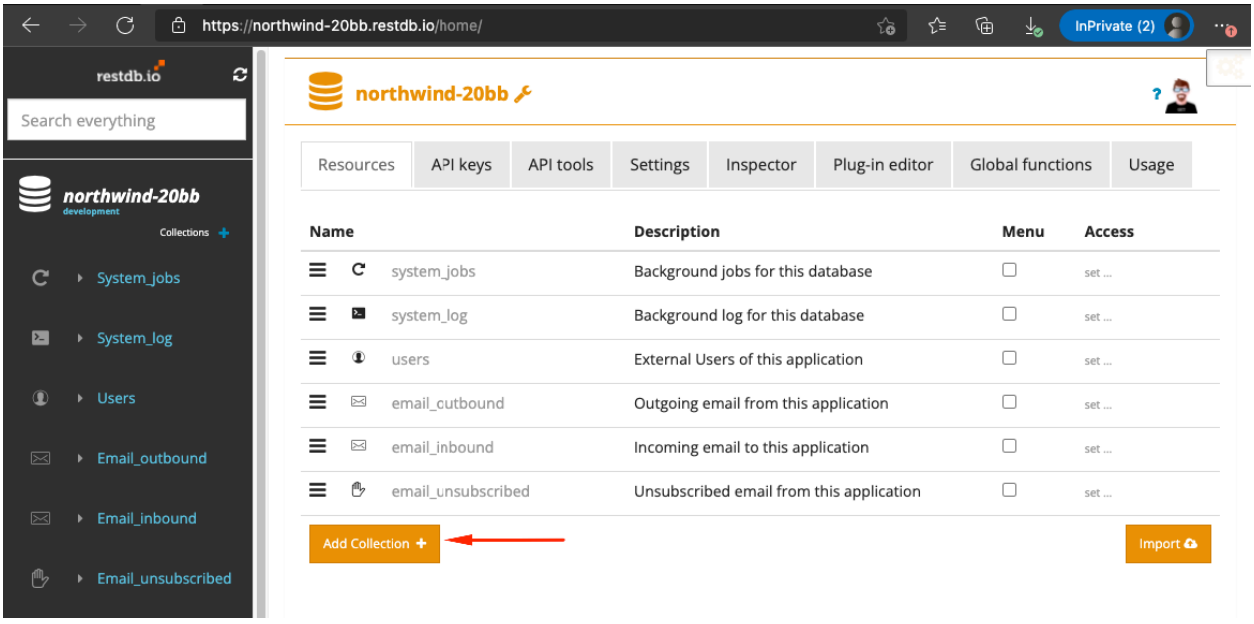


3.1 Click on the northwind database you created earlier.

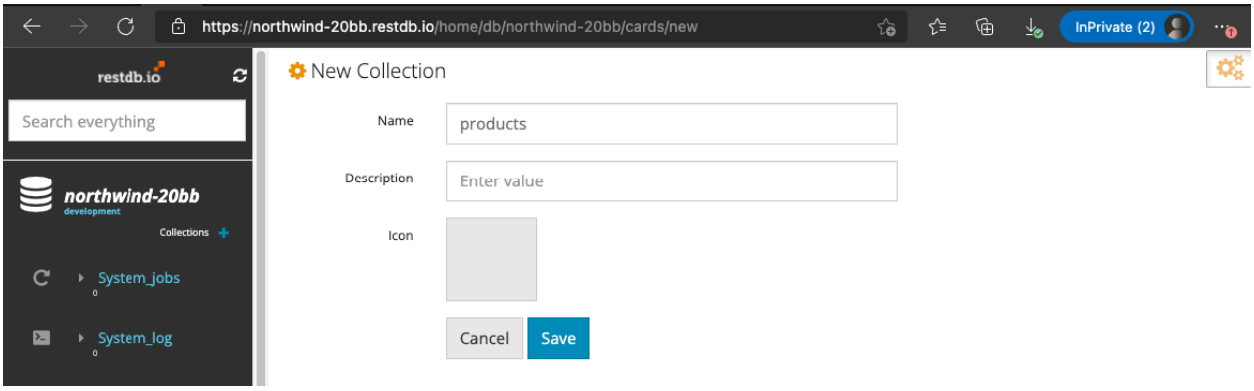


3.2 Switch to Developer mode

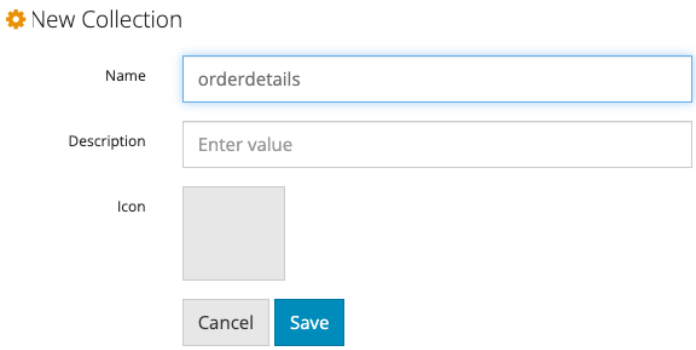
3.3 Click on Add Collection



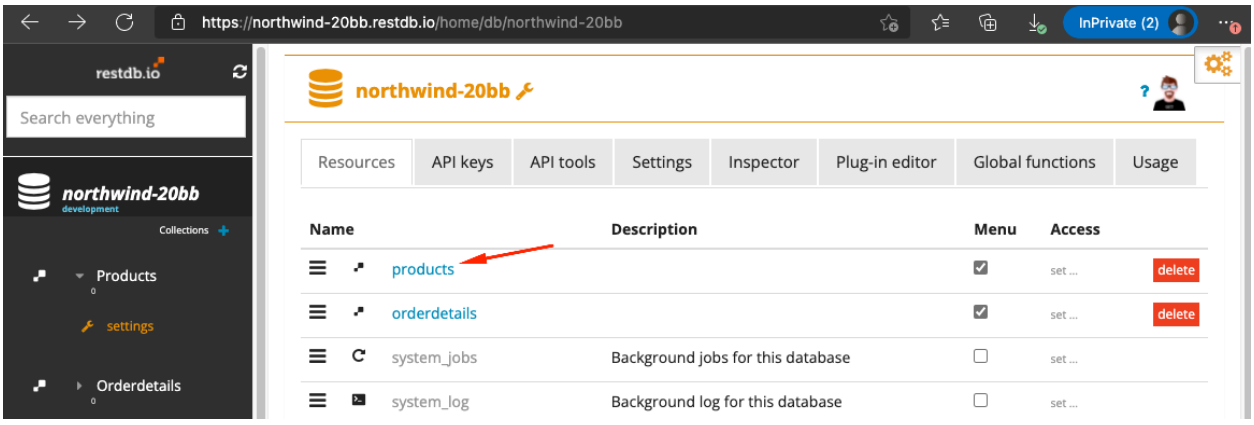
3.4 The collection name will be products



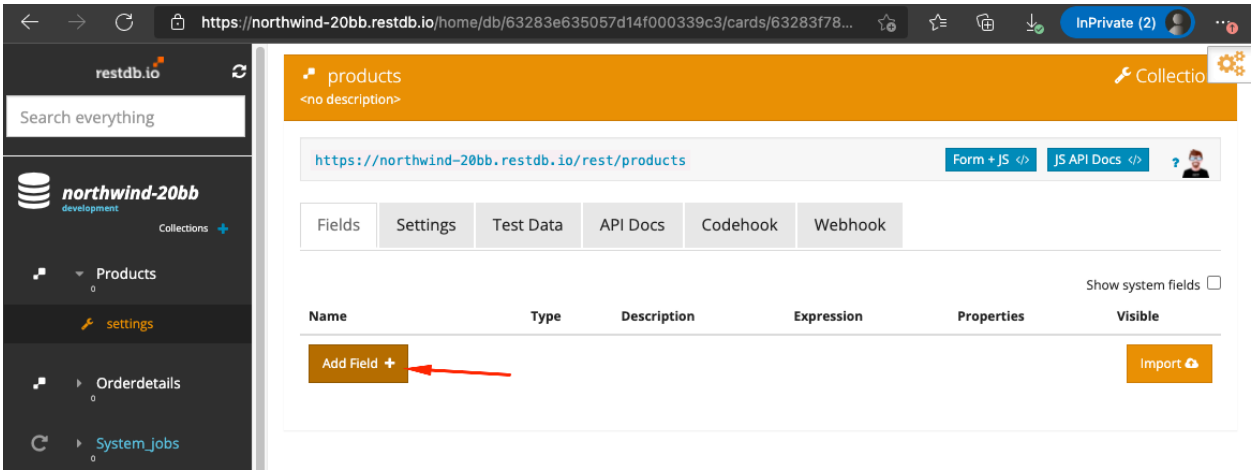
3.5 Add another collection: orderdetails



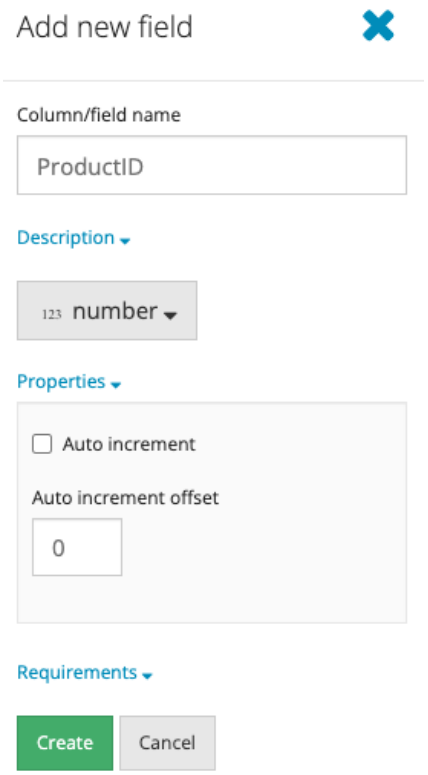
3.6 Click on Products



3.7 Click on Add Field

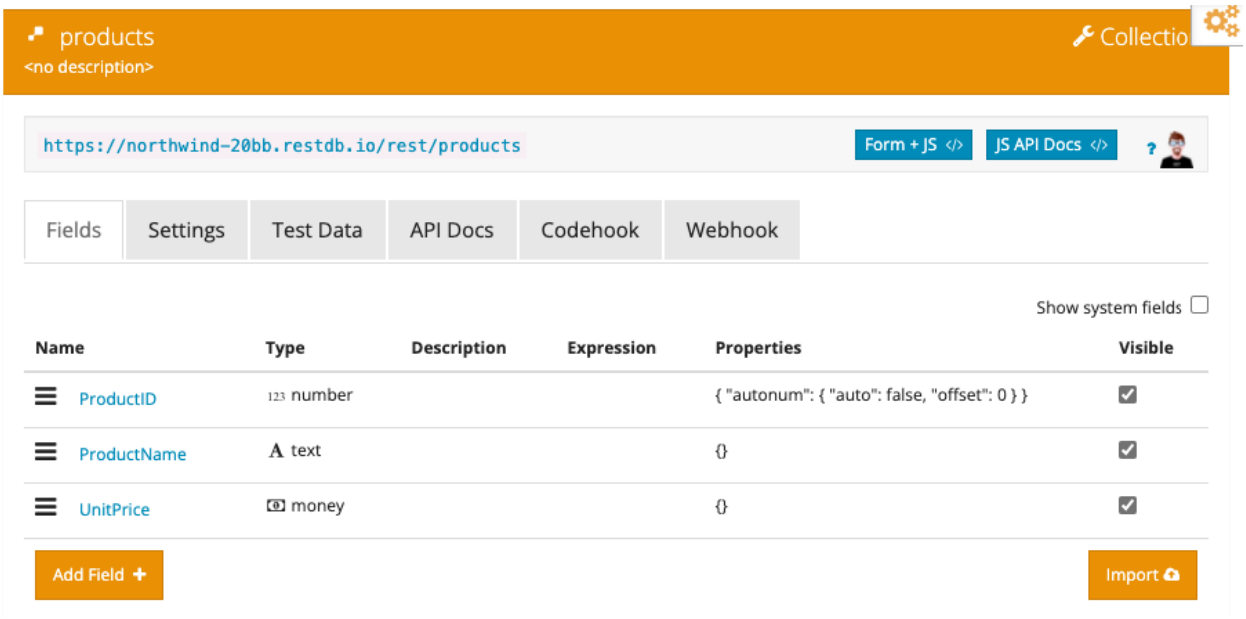


3.8 Column name is ProductID and data type is number. Click on Create.

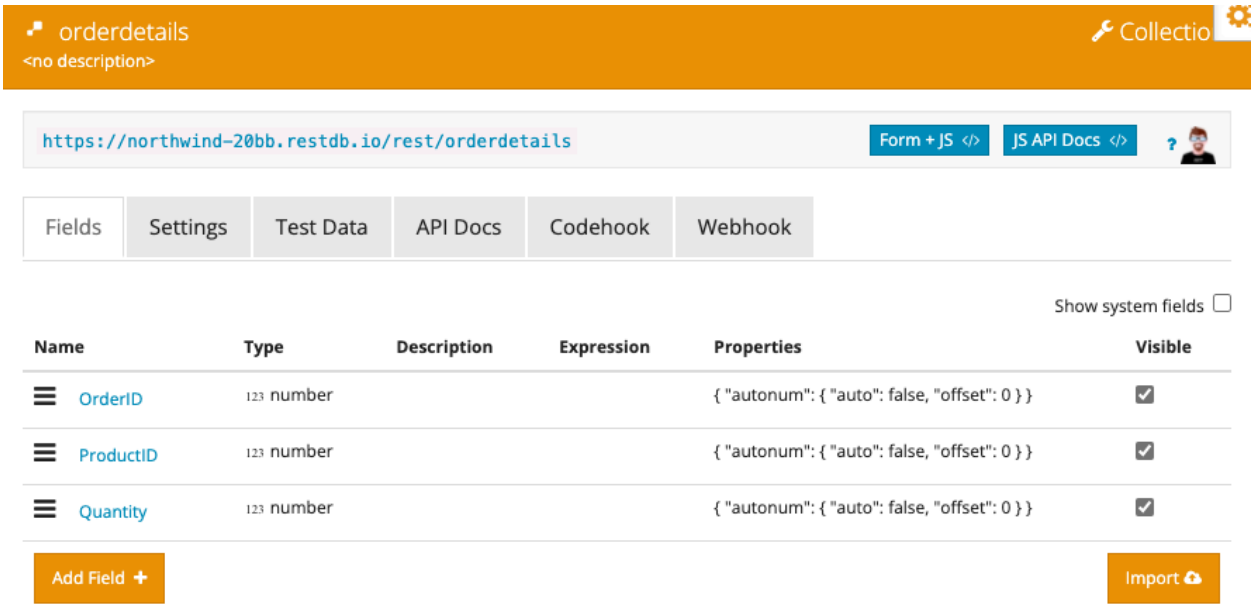


3.9 Add two more fields:

- ProductName (text)
- UnitPrice (money)

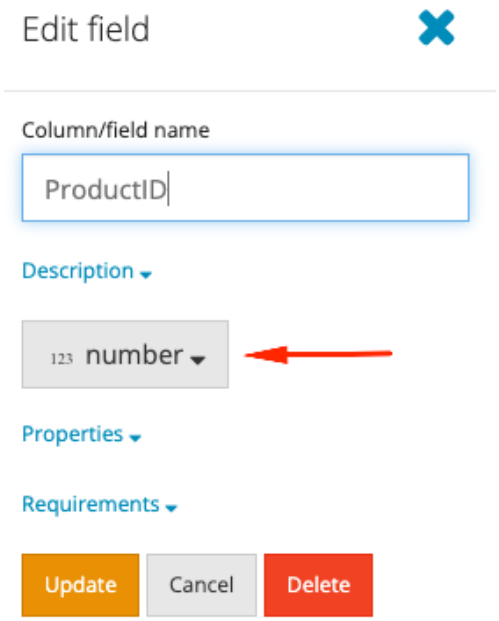


3.10 Create the following structure in orderdetails collection:

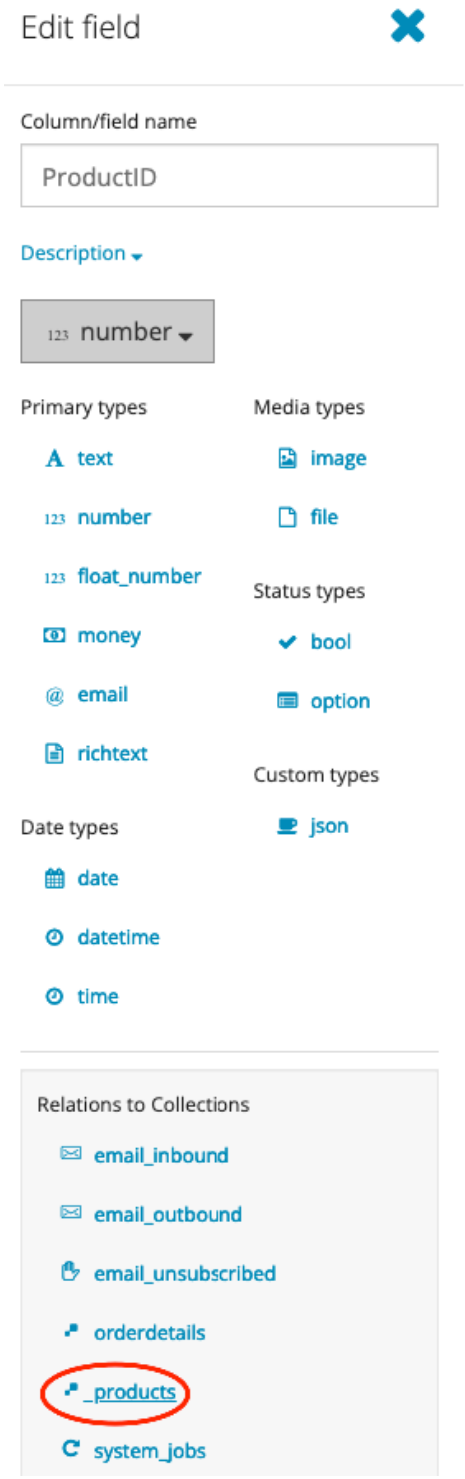


Task 4. Map relations between collections
In order to create “relations”, you must change the database schema.

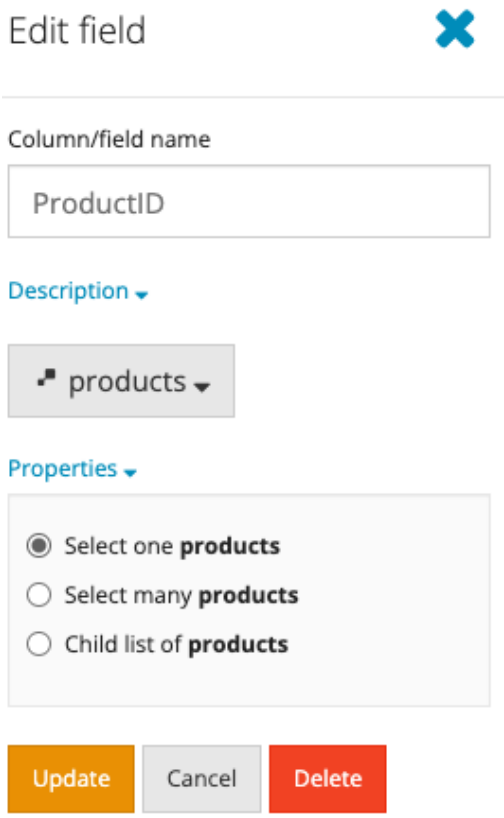
4.1 In orderdetails collection, click on ProductID to see its data type.



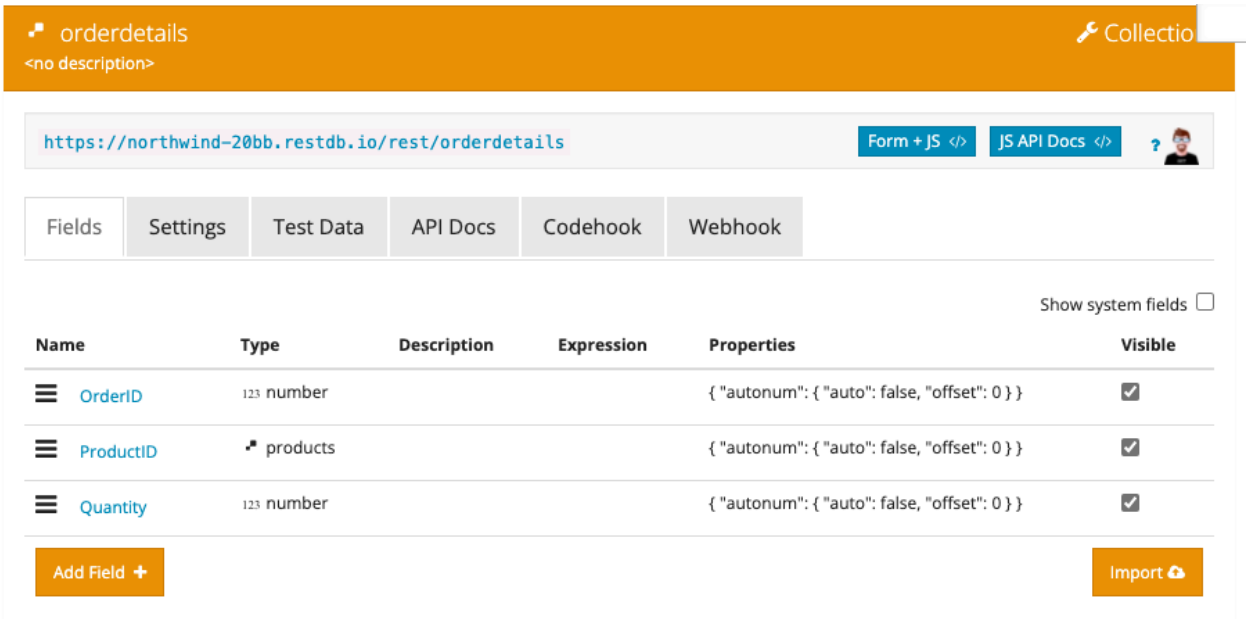
4.2 Change its data type, from number to Products.



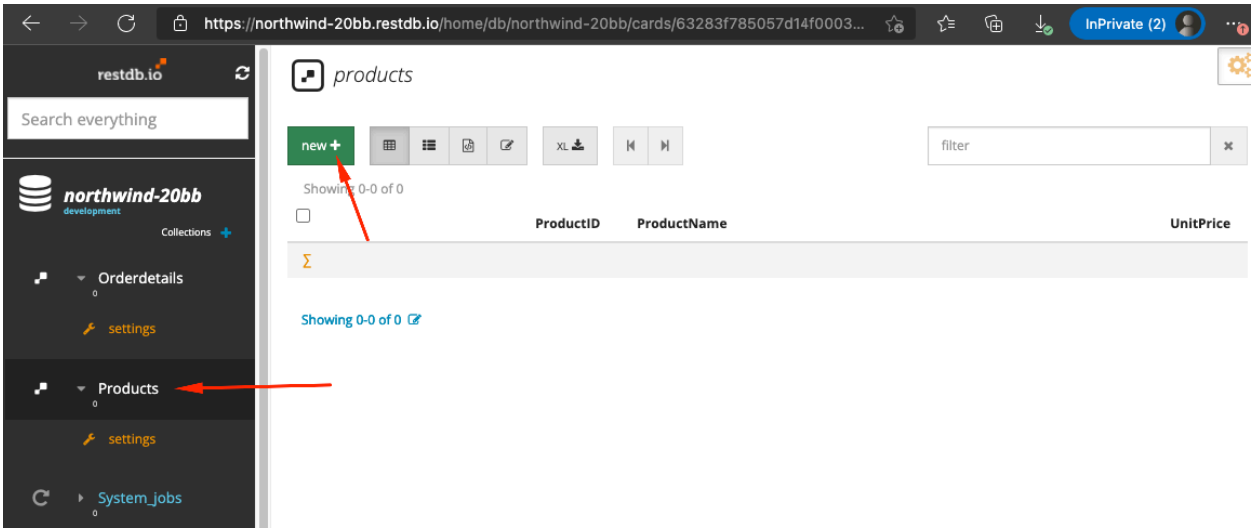
4.3 Select “Select one product” and Confirm the operation by clicking on Update



Expected output



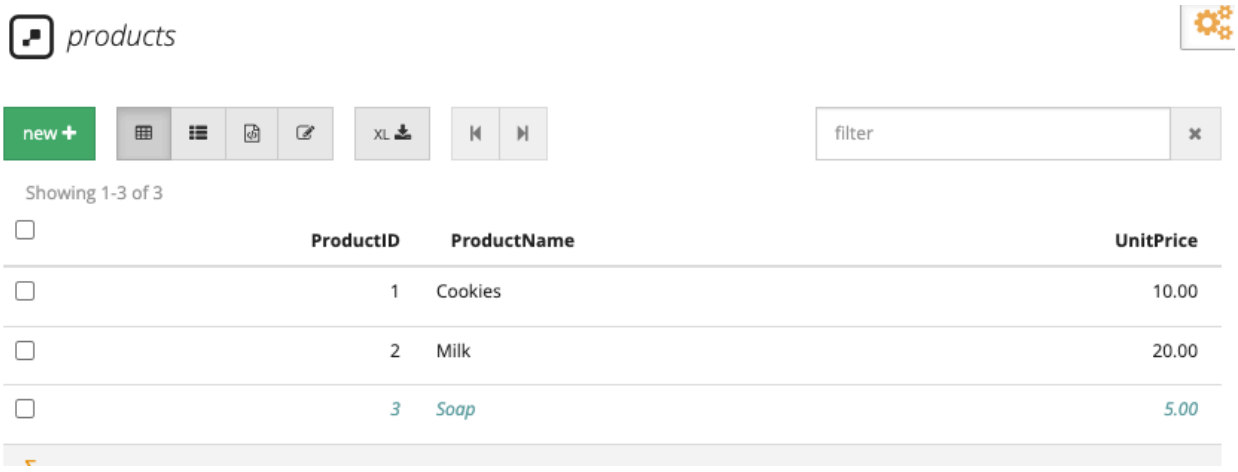
4.4 Now let’s add some data. Click on Products and then on New + button



4.5 Add the following products

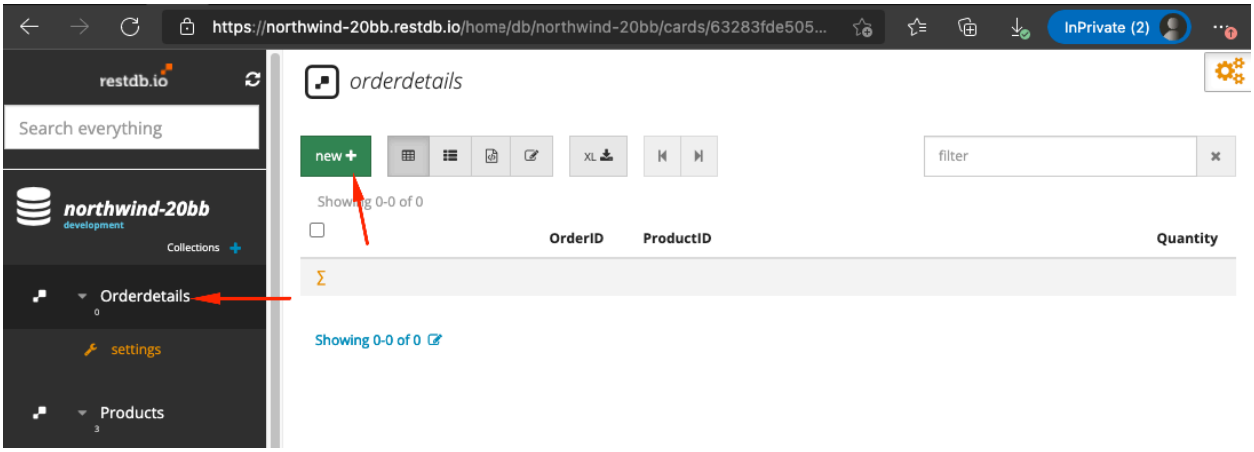
ProductID	ProductName	UnitPrice
1	Cookies	10
2	Milk	20
3	Soap	5

Expected result

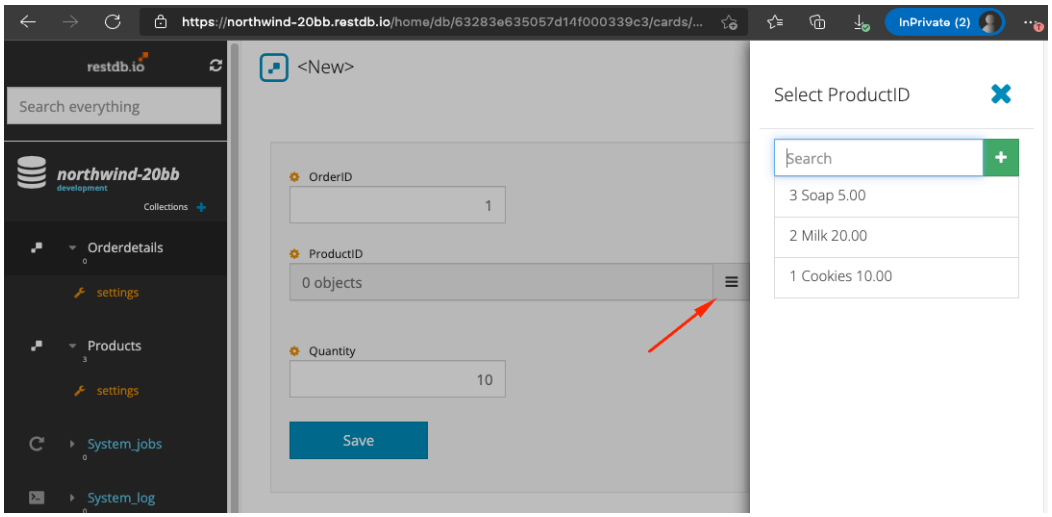


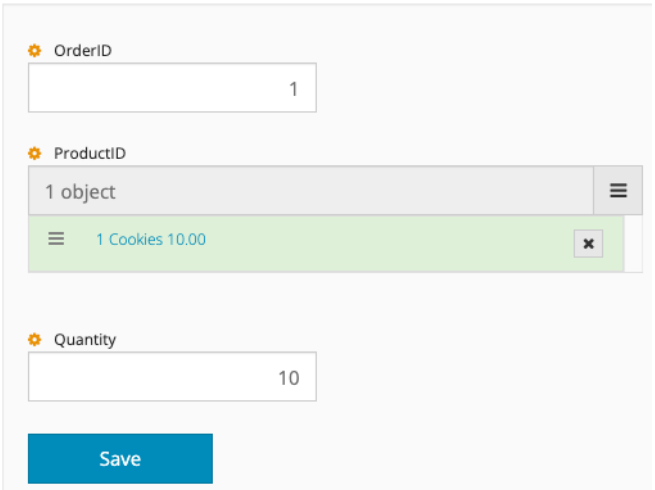
You have just added 3 documents to the products collection.

4.6 Now try to add an orderdetails item



4.7 When you enter data, for ProductID you actually have to select a member from products collection

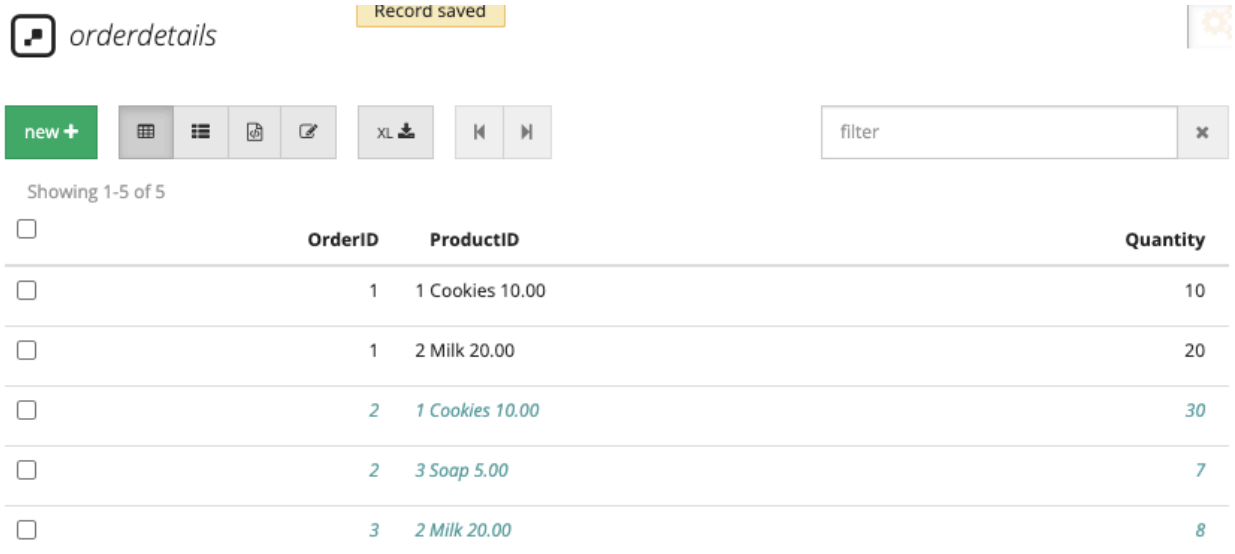




Add the following data to the collection

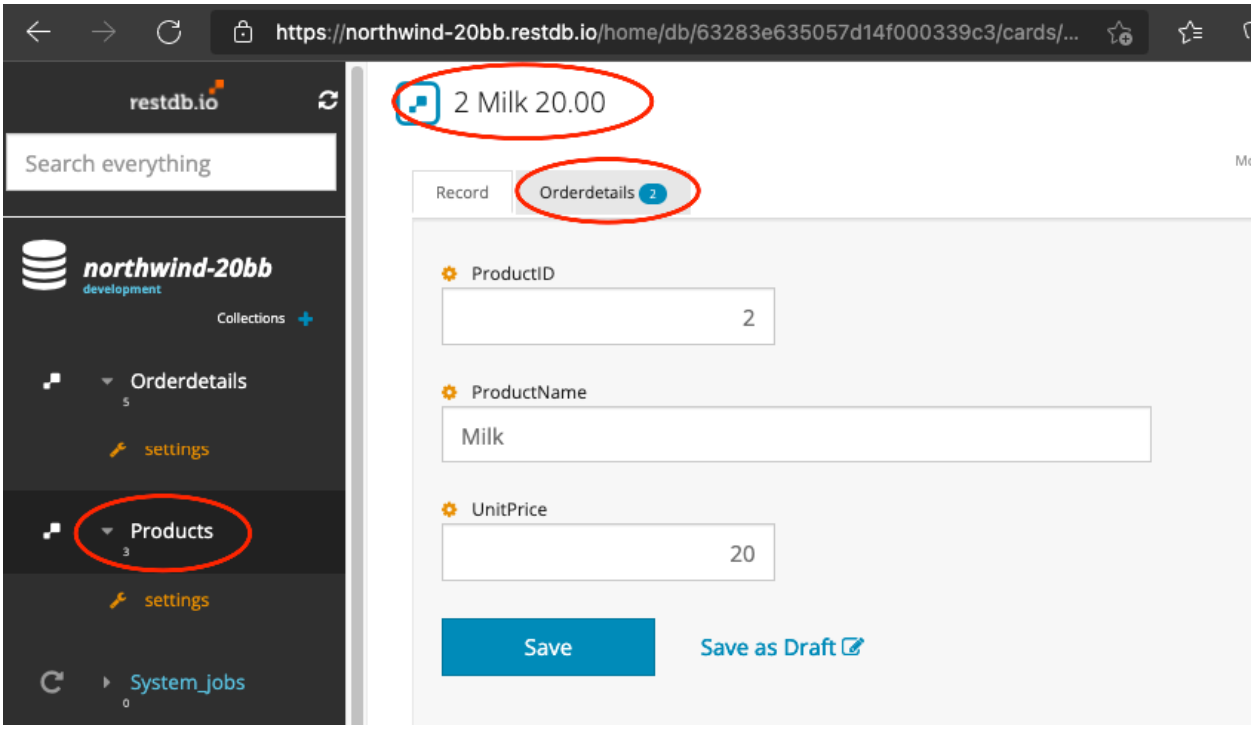
OrderID	Product	Quantity
1	Cookies	10
1	Milk	20
2	Cookies	30
2	Soap	7
3	Milk	8

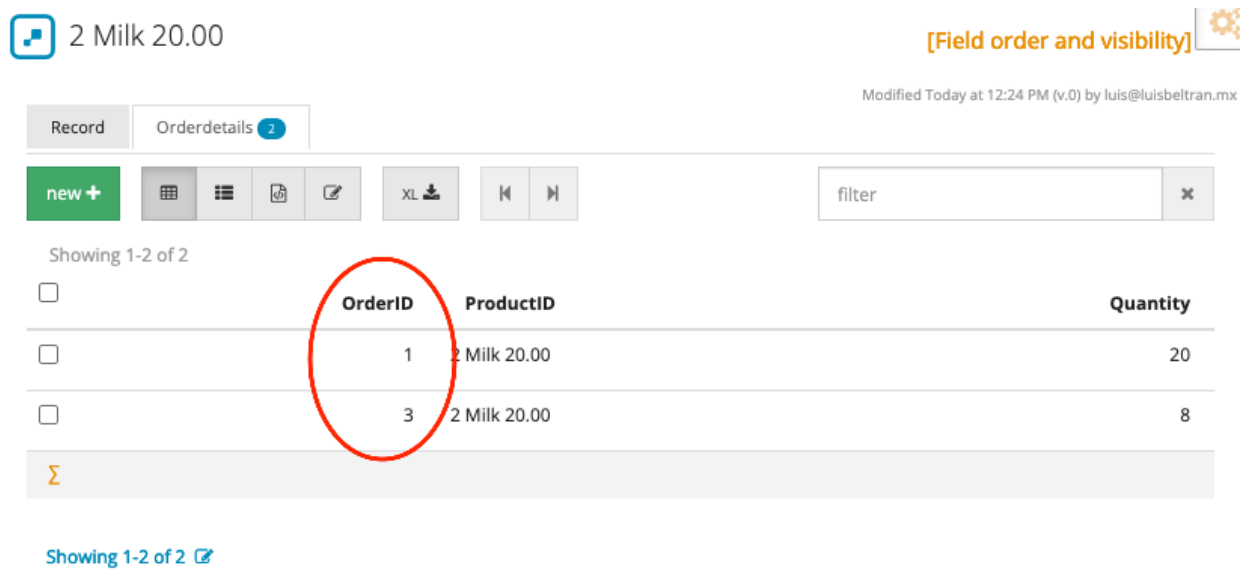
Expected output



As we now have a data schema that "knows" about the relations between our collections, restdb.io provides you with some really useful productivity features.

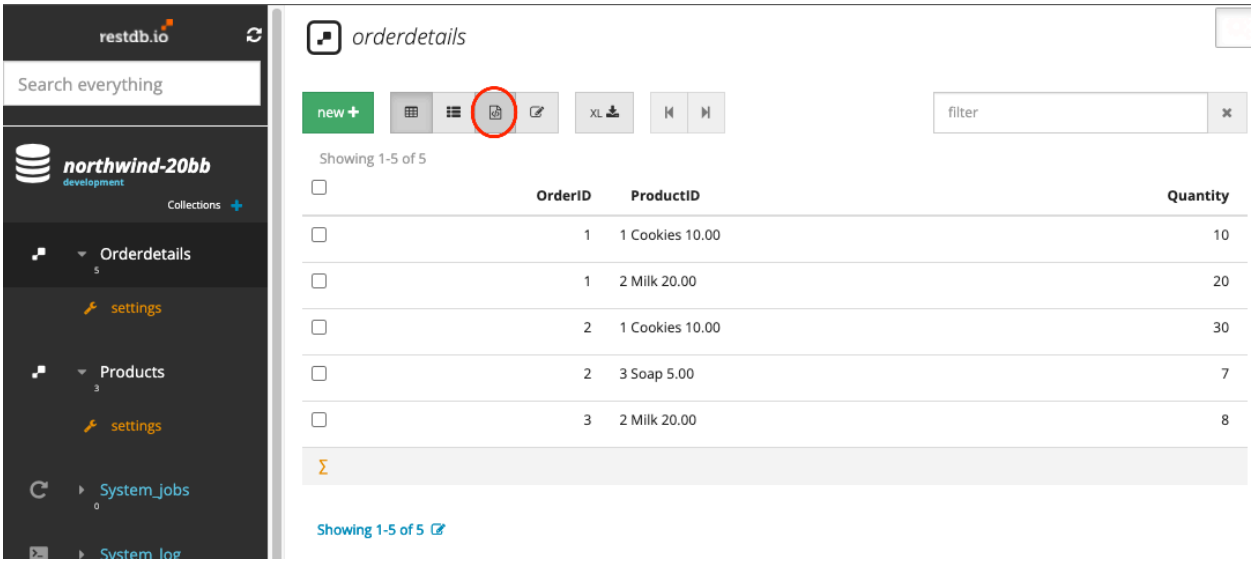
4.8 Navigate to any Product and you will see all orderdetails for that particular product.





Task 5. See JSON data

5.1 Firstly, go back to the orderdetails collection and click on the json data icon



5.2 You will see that for each element, you can immediately access its products information (a document that contains other documents).

We see that the field ProductID which used to be just a number, has been replaced with the actual document (record) it refers.

This differs from SQL databases, where we would have to join the two collections to produce a similar result.

In the NoSQL world we embed and duplicate, and that's ok.

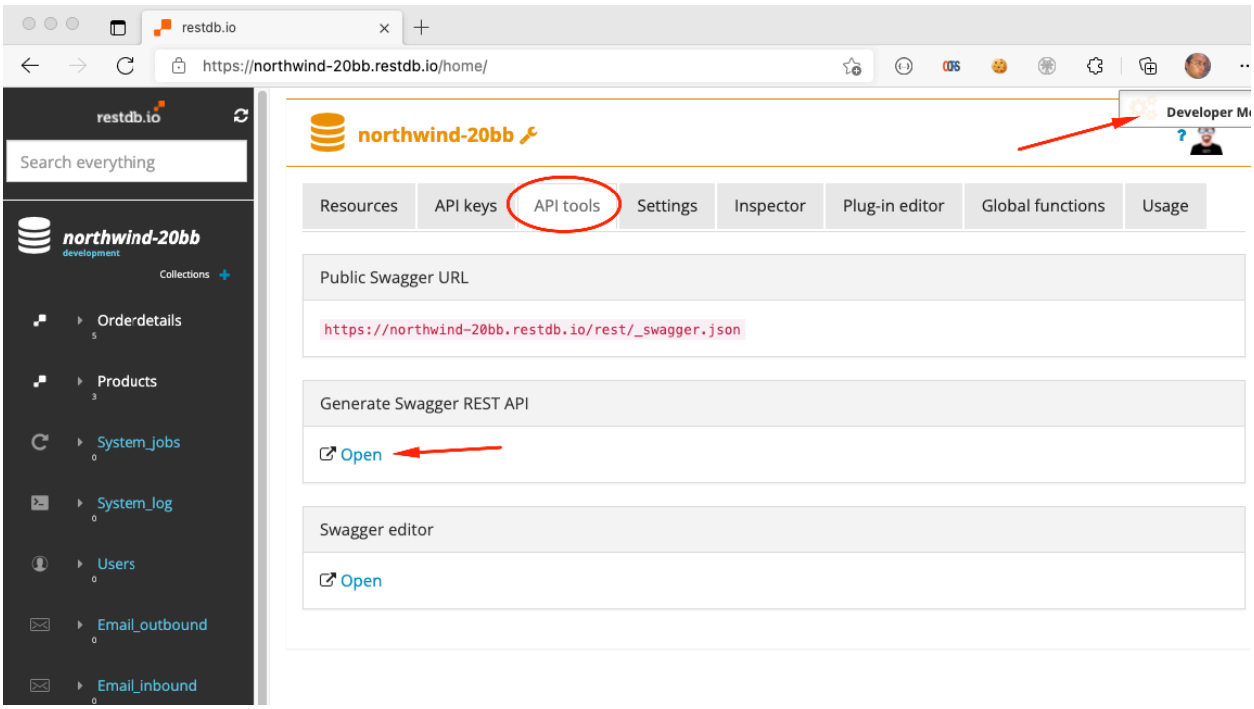
Task 6. Use the API

Querying your database is an essential part of any application. restdb.io uses plain URLs with simple parameters and JSON documents to query your database.

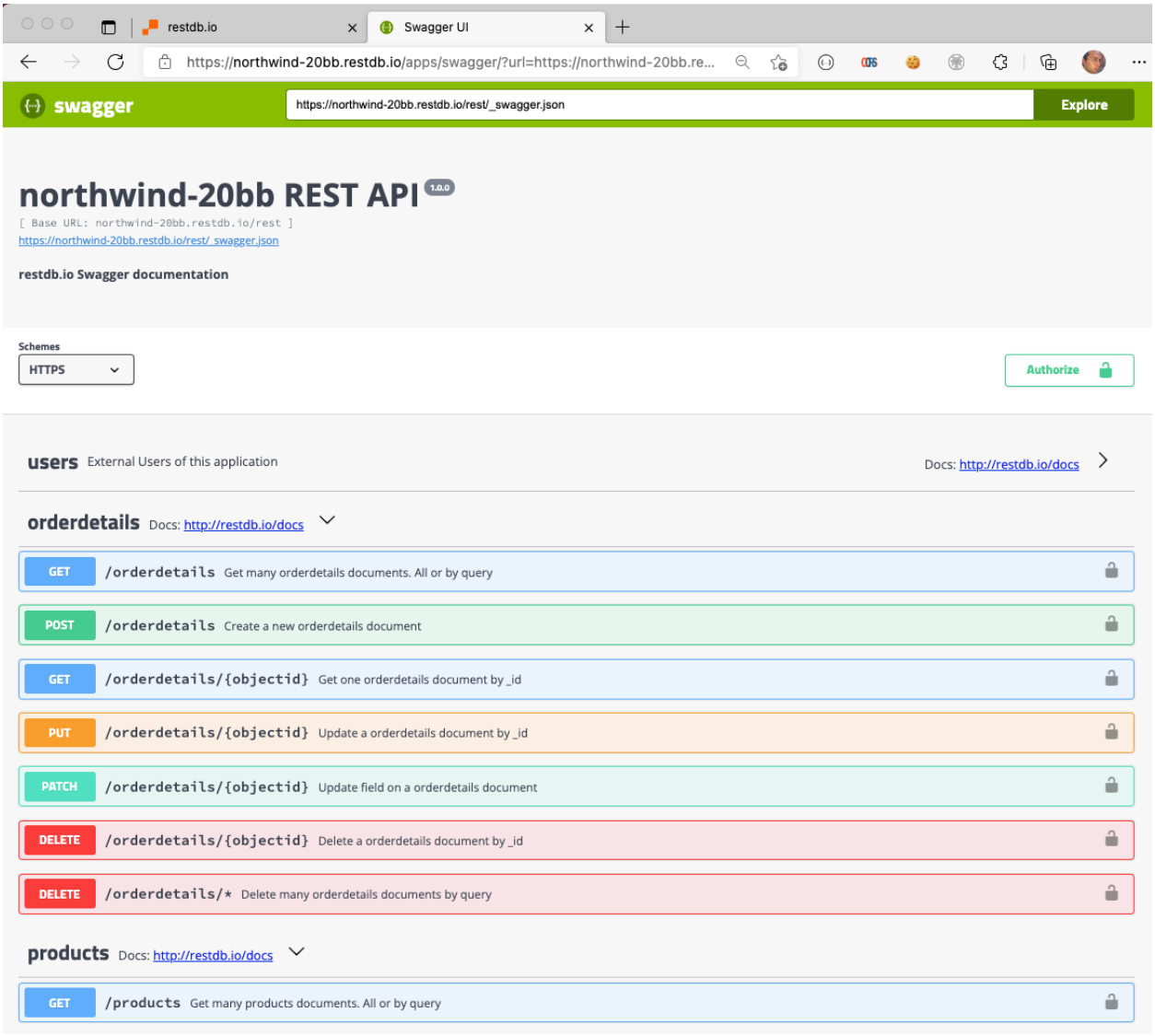
Database queries are created as valid JSON documents. A query object consists of fields and operators that make up a complete query. Please note that query fields are case sensitive.

RestDB.io autogenerates a complete JavaScript API for your database.

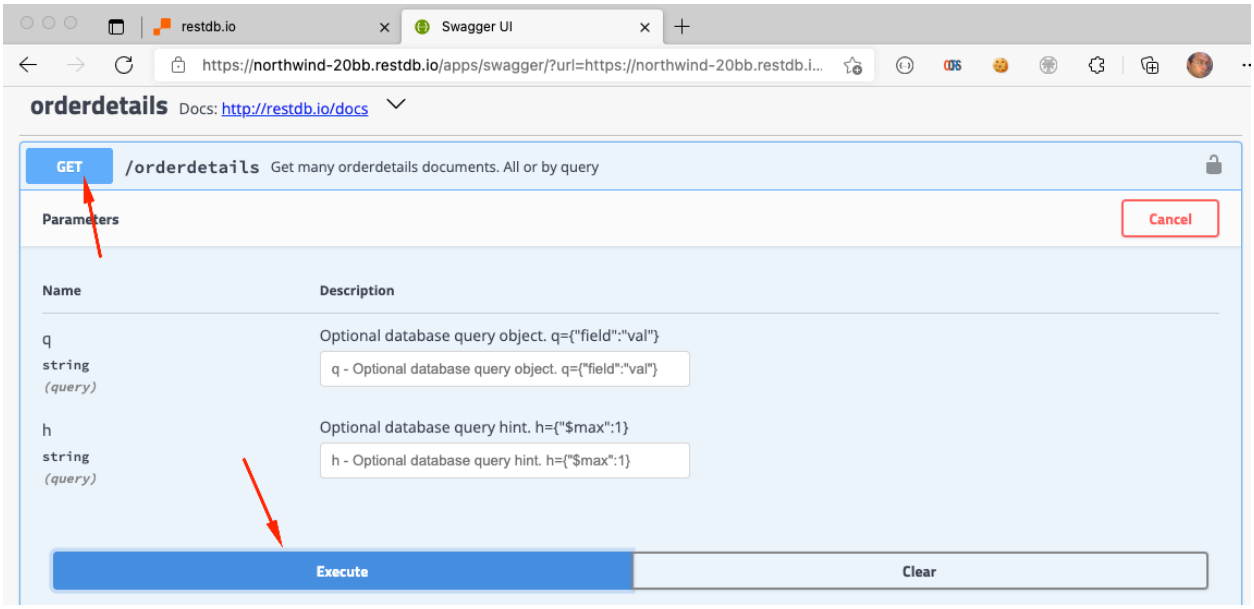
6.1 Enter Development mode, click on API tools and then Open the generated Swagger REST API



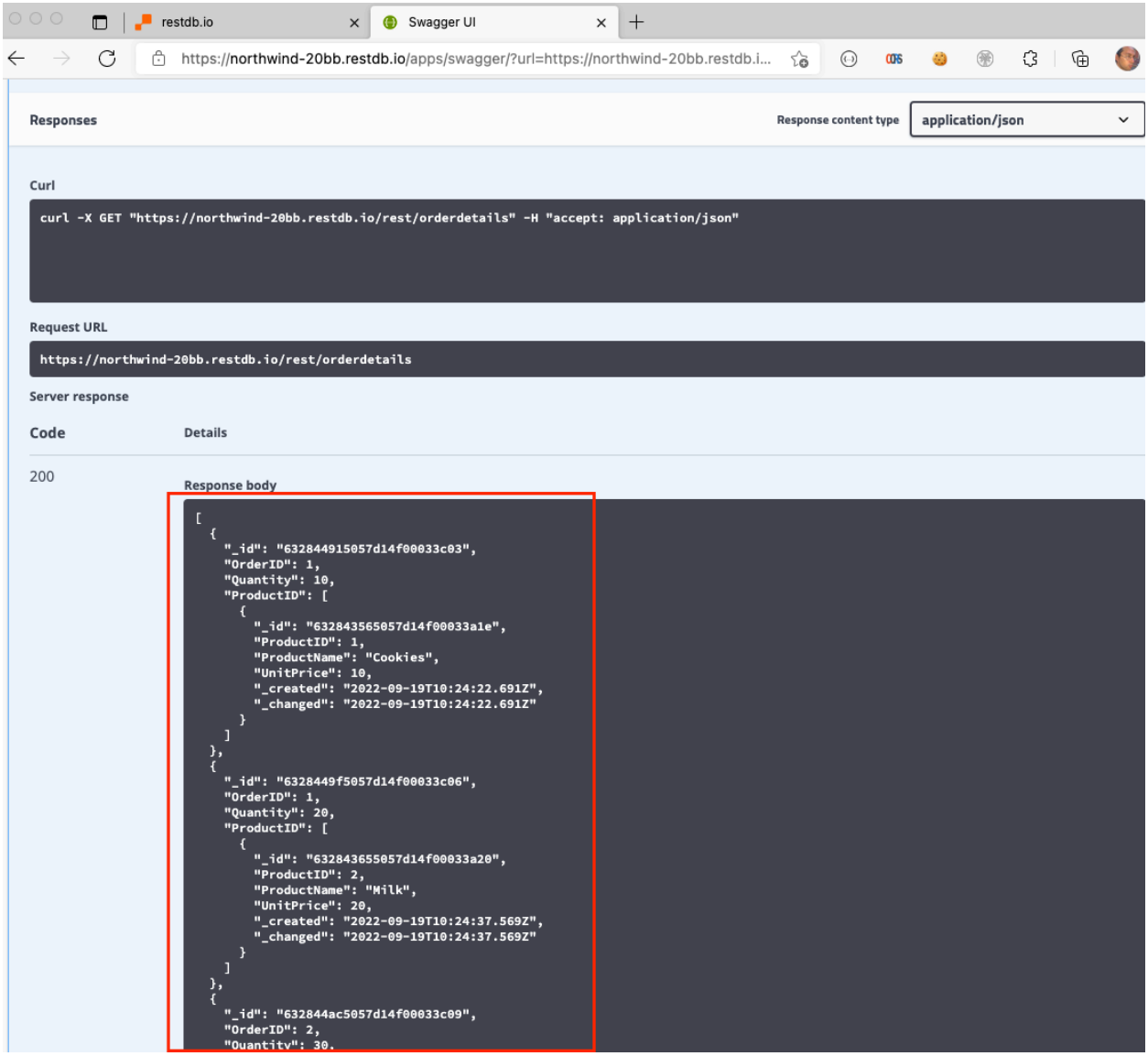
You will see access the Swagger documentation of the database REST API in order to easily test basic CRUD operations and more which directly impact the collections.



6.2 Click on the GET service of /orderdetails and then on Execute

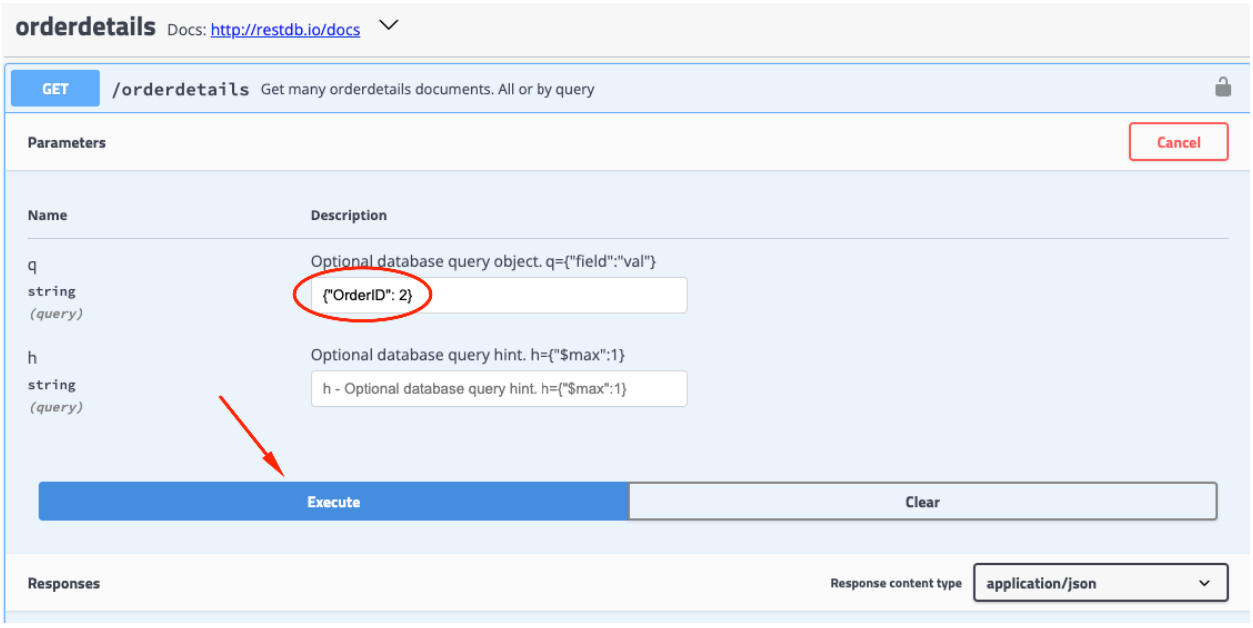


You will see the results below along with the information for request (URL, expected server response, etc)

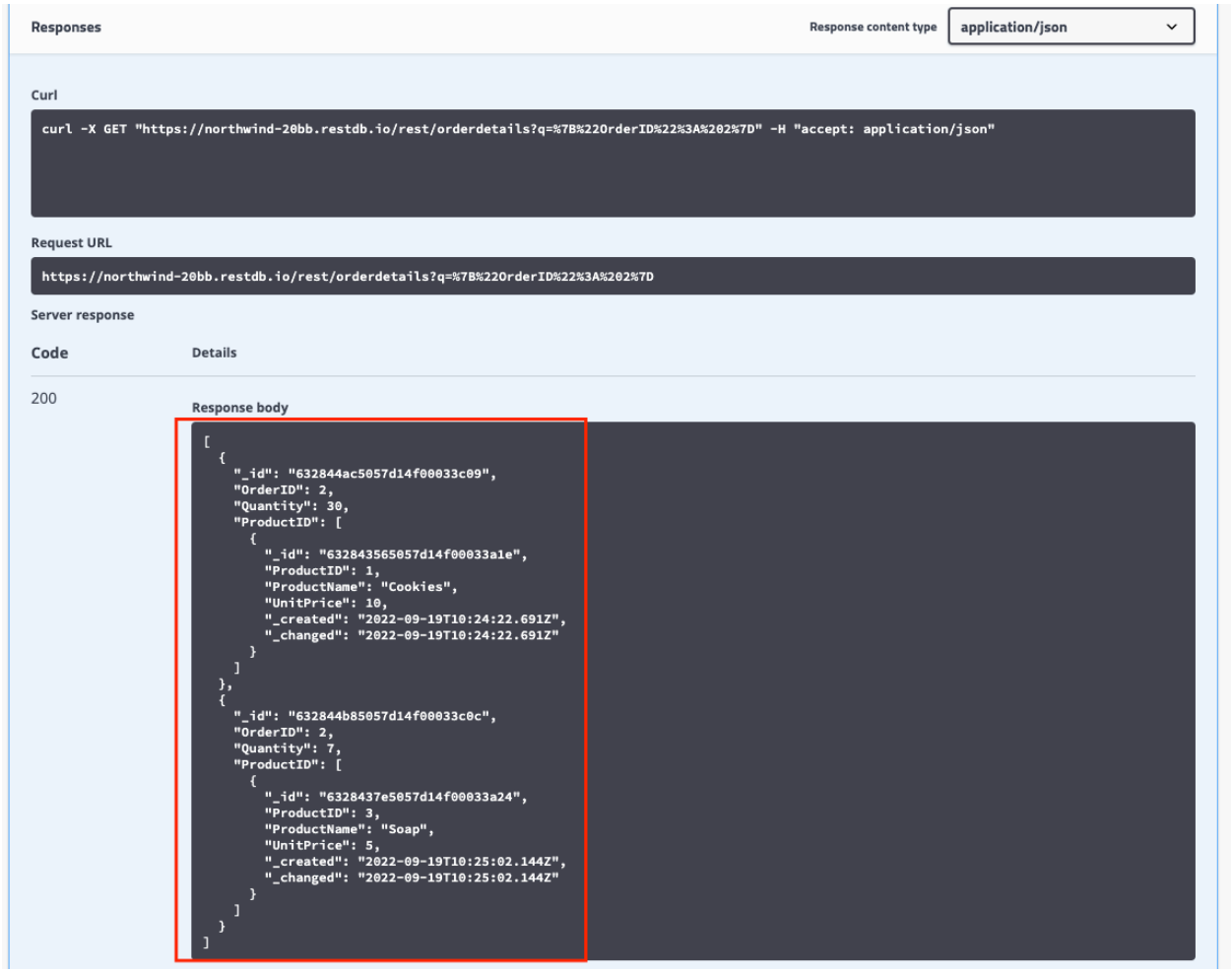


6.3 Now go back to the /GET method and in the q Parameter textbox, enter the following value (and click on Execute):

{"OrderID": 2}

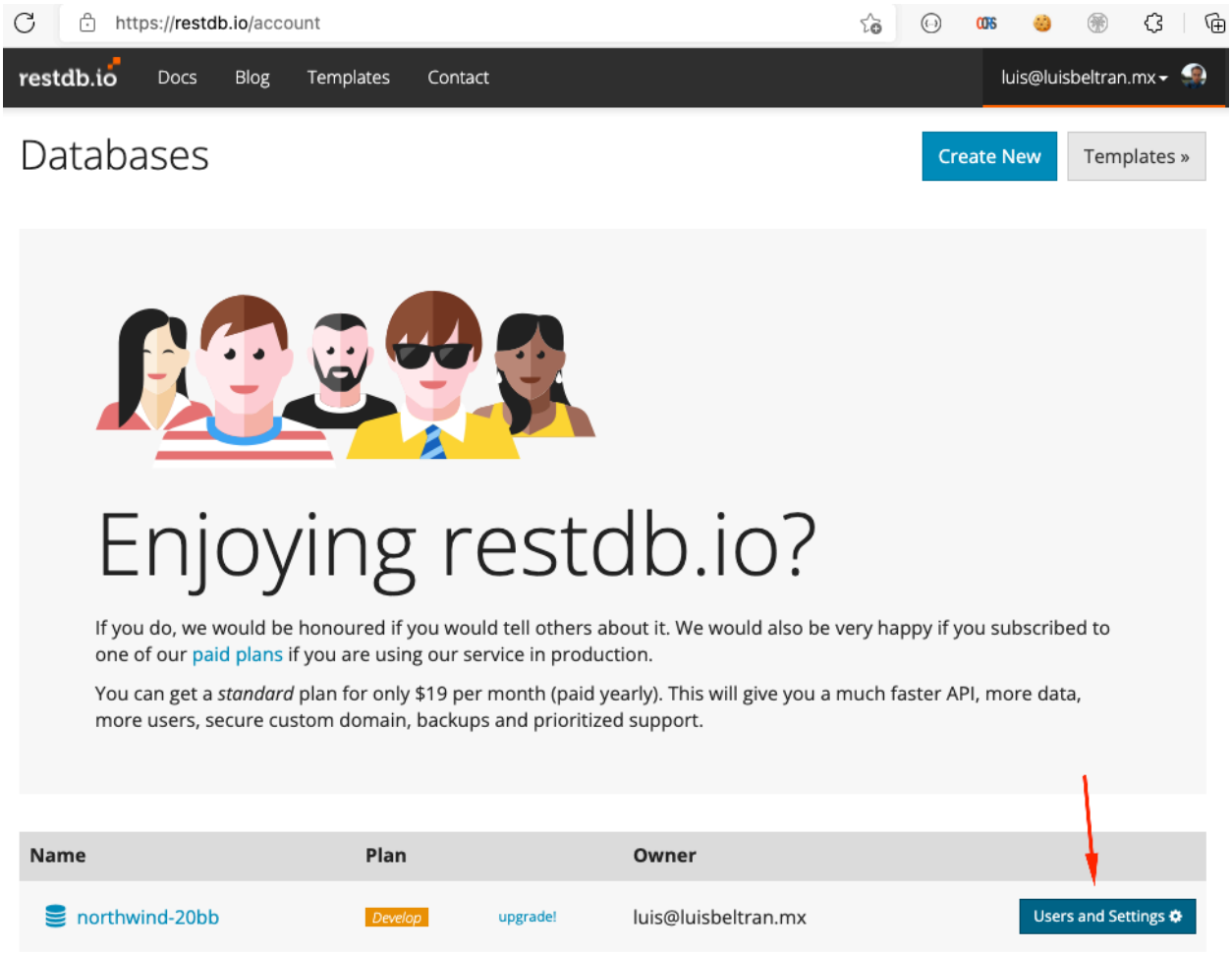


As expected, only the Order Details from Order 2 will appear:

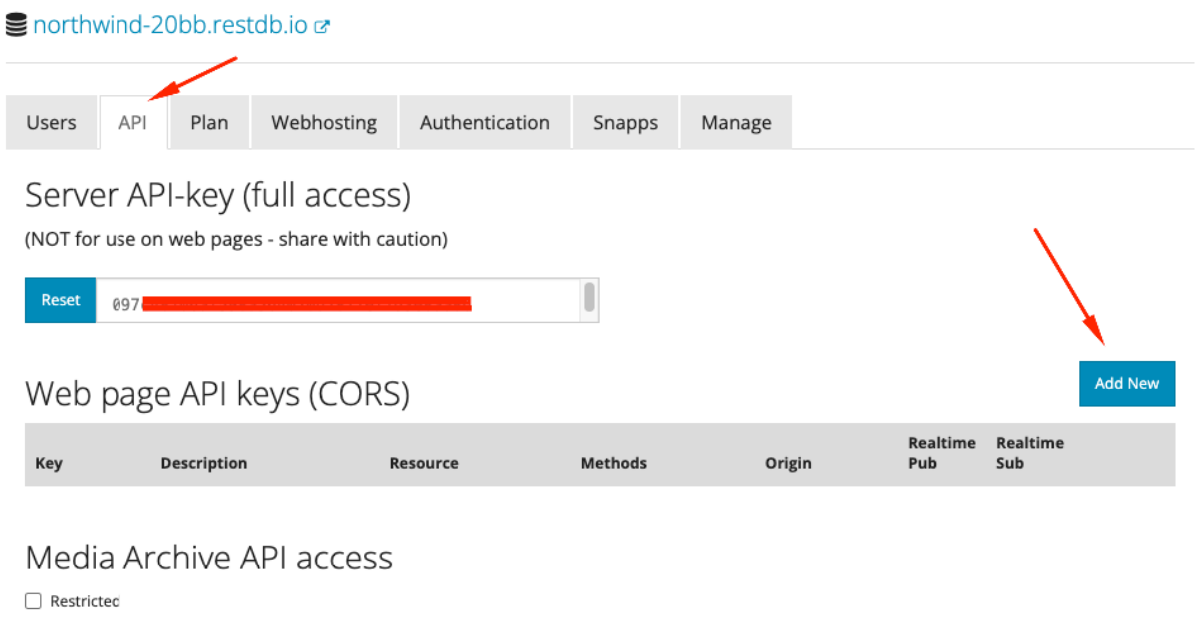


You can use the API to develop an application that queries your NoSQL database. If you are developing a web application, you must enable an additional permission.

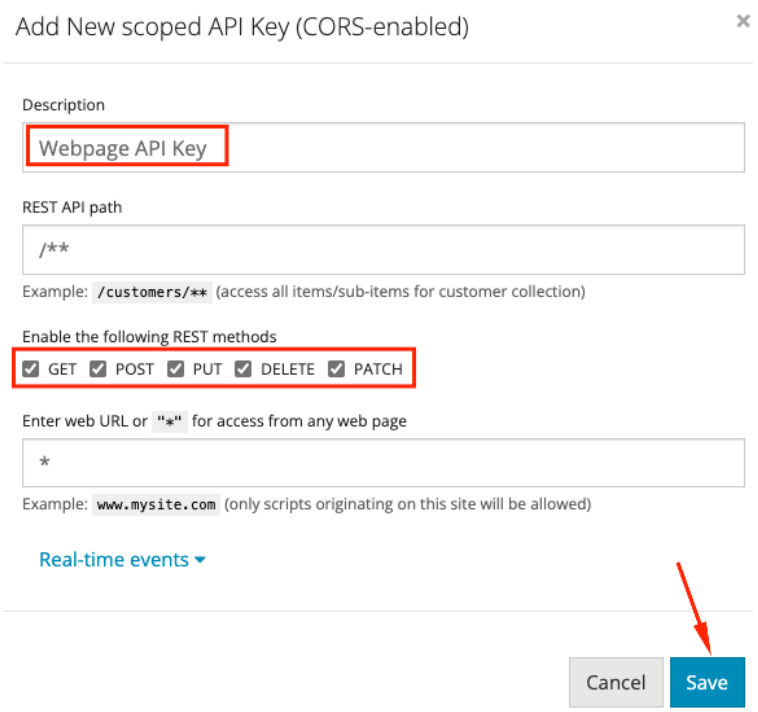
6.4 Go back to your main restdb.io account page and click on Users and Settings from your database.



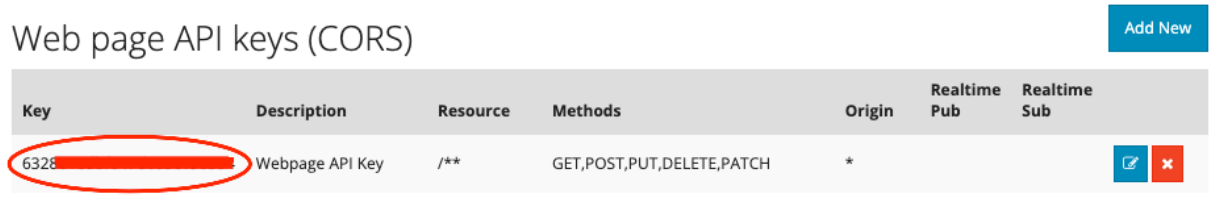
6.5 Click on the API tab and click on Add New CORS API Key.



6.5 Enter a description and choose some REST methods. Leave the rest of the fields with their default values. Click on Save.



6.6 Copy the key that has been created for you.



6.7 Access the following code and click on Raw. Then right click and Save the file
https://gist.github.com/icebeam7/cc012e71c22a106ae776ef1370edeb6e

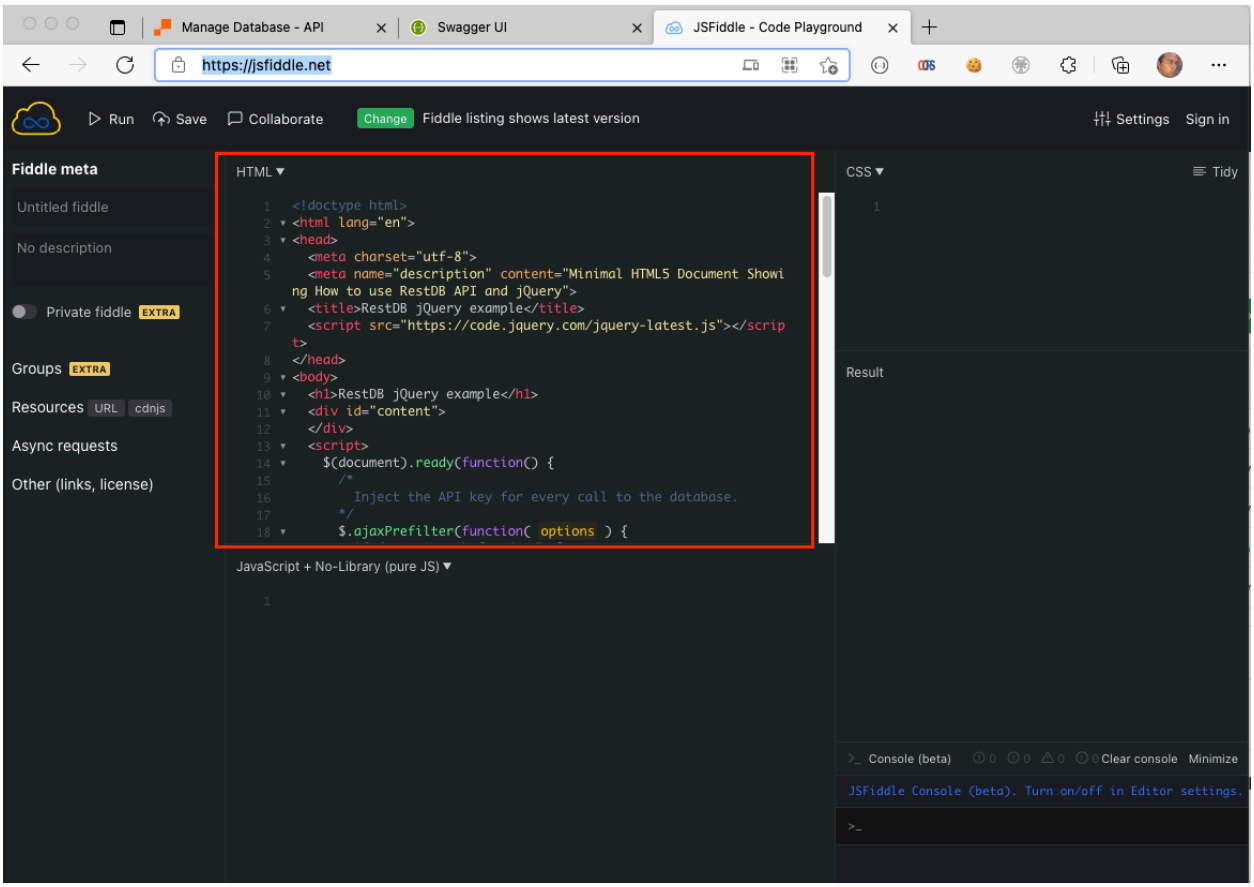
restdb collection access in Javscript

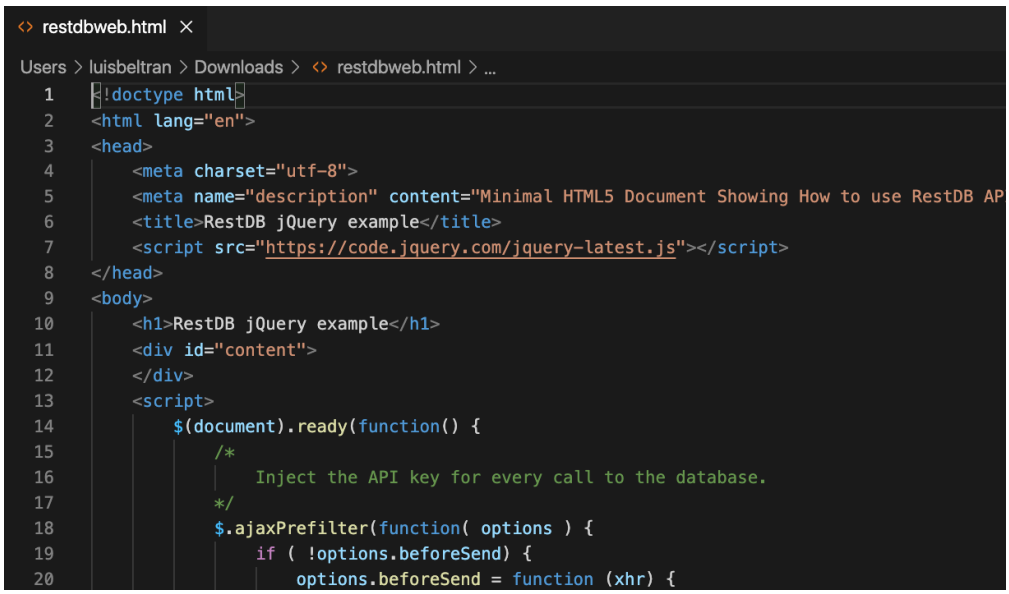
restdbweb.html — Raw

```
<!doctype html>
<html lang="en">
<head>
        <meta charset="utf-8">
        <meta name="description" content="Minimal HTML5 Document Showing How to use RestDB API and jQuery">
        <title>RestDB jQuery example</title>
        <script src="https://code.jquery.com/jquery-latest.js"></script>
</head>
<body>
        <h1>RestDB jQuery example</h1>
        <div id="content">
        </div>
        <script>
                $(document).ready(function() {
                        /*
                                Inject the API key for every call to the database.
                        */
                        $.ajaxPrefilter(function( options ) {
                                if ( !options.beforeSend) {
                                        options.beforeSend = function (xhr) {
                                                xhr.setRequestHeader('x-apikey', 'REPLACE-WITH-YOUR-KEY');
                                        }
                                }
                        });
                        /*
                                Create html from one record
                        */
                        var makeHtmlItem = function(item) {
                                var element = $('<div></div>').attr('id', item._id);
                                element.append('<hr><span>'+item['ProductName']+' '+item['UnitPrice']+'</span>');
```

6.8 Either:

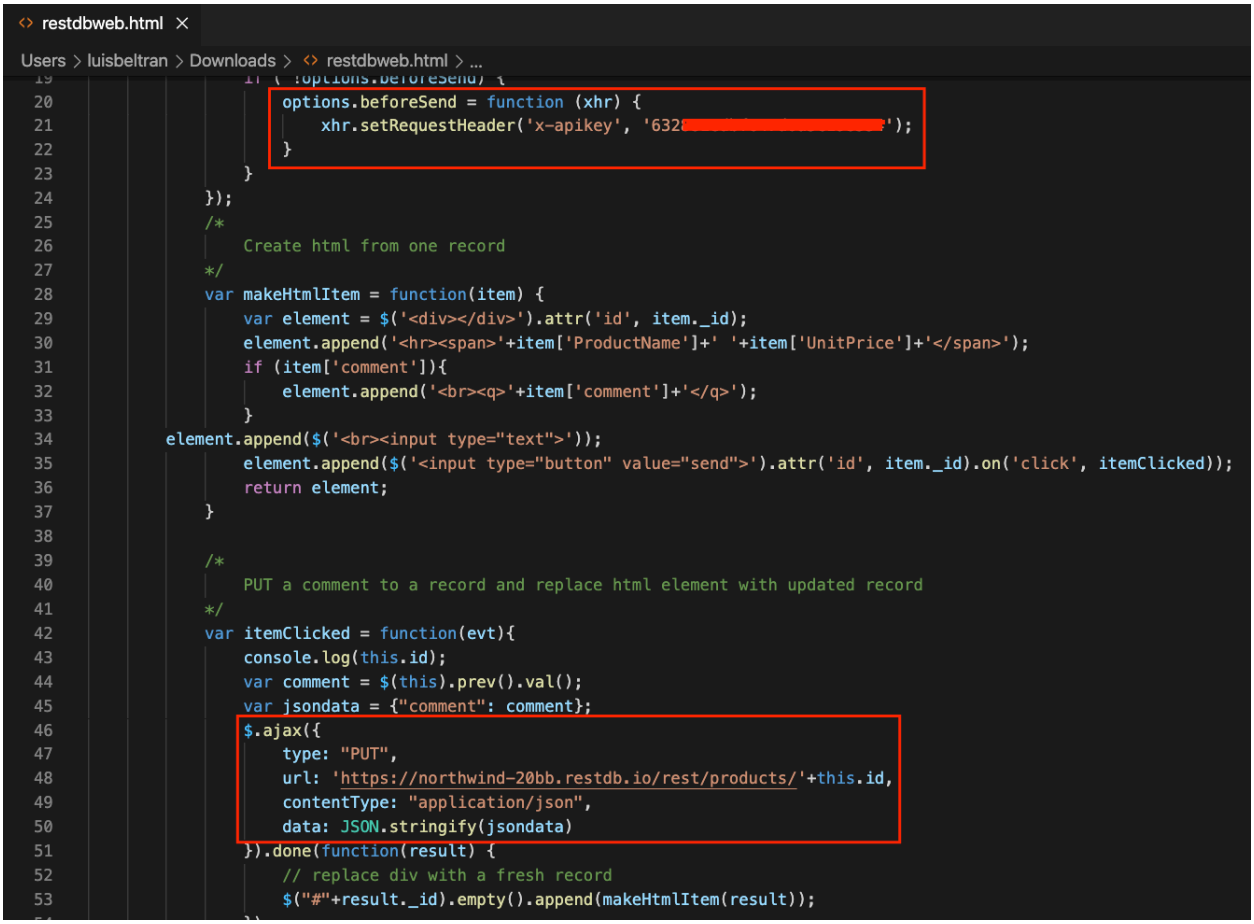
- Open the file using an Editor (Visual Studio Code, Notepad, etc)
- Go to https://jsfiddle.net/ and paste the content in the HTML section



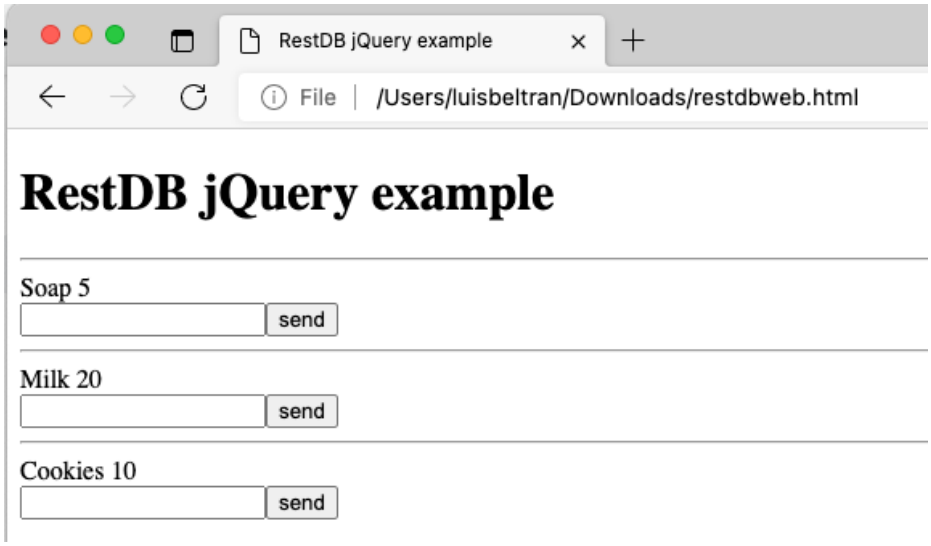


6.9 Find the following lines and replace:

Line	Replace with
21	The key from step 6.6
48	Your database name and suffix (example: northwind-20bb)
61	Your database name and suffix (example: northwind-20bb)



6.10 Access the webpage and observe the results
If you are using Visual Studio, open a browser and access the file



If you are using JSFiddle, click on **Run**