Fetch API JavaScript

Previous

- Covered XMLHTTPRequest
  - GET, HEAD, POST requests
  - Passing variables in the request using PostMan and JavaScript
- Covered Twitter and Google APIs
  - Sending requests and parsing data
- Using Postman

The FETCH API in JavaScript

- We're going to learn a simpler way to send these requests in JavaScript, the FETCH API.

- Fetch uses the then() function prototype to run code after the response is returned.

```
fetch('http://example.com/movies.json')
  .then(response => response.json())
  .then(data => console.log(data));
```

What does this actually do?

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```

In the above response, we sent a GET request to *example.com/movies.json* and **THEN** we save the response into a variable *response* and **THEN** we save the data returned into a variable called *data*, that comes from response.

What does this actually do?

```
fetch('http://example.com/movies.json')
    .then(response => response.json())
    .then(data => console.log(data));
```

This format makes the code much easier to read and understand than previous formats we have learned. Fetch can create must more complex requests as well...

Biggest Problem with the Fetch API?

- Not compatible with Internet Explorer or IOS Safari, so you have to make sure you are prepared to deal with that. One way is to use a polyfill, a special JavaScript function written by someone else that adds the functionality into incompatible browsers.

https://github.com/github/fetch

- Here's one specifically for Fetch, it doesn't provide all the features of fetch, but it does provide the ones that we will use.

Demo

Quick Demo of a POST request with Fetch()

Today's Lab

- **We're going to use Fetch to pull data from a Wikipedia page and display the text on our screen.**

You'll need this plugin if you use Chrome.
https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/moesif-orign-cors-changer/digfbfaphojjndkpccljibejjbppifbc/related?hl=en-US

This is the API Request URL you will need to send the Fetch Request to.
https://en.wikipedia.org/w/api.php?action=parse&page=Application_programming_interface&format=json

Further Reading

- https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/API/Fetch_API/Using_Fetch

- https://developers.google.com/web/updates/2015/03/introduction-to-fetch

- https://javascript.info/fetch