Major Problems w/ Solutions

Google DevTools and CSS Box Model

1. The first major problem was determining the style of the site and how to go about implementing it. At first coding CSS in an IDE and flipping between it and the browser began to become tedious. After a bit of tinkering, it was concluded that using Google DevTools was far more useful and visualizing changes in real-time. It was especially helpful in learning the CSS Box Model and how to manipulate margins, paddings, borders, and content. To summarize, using Google DevTools relieved a lot of stress when trying to design the layout of the web application.

Using PHP to Display HTML and CSS Elements

2. One of the most important pieces of code in the project is the ability to display all the books for the user to interact with. What was needed was a way to access the database and retrieve every available book in the library and display its information without having to create an excessive amount of HTML code by manually adding books. With PHP, a loop can access the database and traverse through the returned list of rows obtained. The information retrieved can then be manipulated by telling the script to display a book in a specific fashion. The confusing part about implementing this is that one must enter PHP using its opening and closing tags repeatedly within the loop. This code is used in the files 'library.php' and 'collection.php' in the HTML sections.