

Kubernetes allows containers running within the cluster to interact with the Kubernetes API. This opens the door to some powerful forms of automation. But in order to ensure that this gets done securely, it is a good idea to use specialized ServiceAccounts with restricted permissions to allow containers to access the API. In this lesson, we will discuss ServiceAccounts as they pertain to pod configuration, and we will walk through the process of specifying which ServiceAccount a pod will use to connect to the Kubernetes API.

Relevant Documentation

- <https://kubernetes.io/docs/reference/access-authn-authz/service-accounts-admin/>
- <https://kubernetes.io/docs/tasks/configure-pod-container/configure-service-account/>

Lesson Reference

Creating a ServiceAccount looks like this:

```
kubectl create serviceaccount my-serviceaccount
```

Use the `serviceAccountName` attribute in the pod spec to specify which ServiceAccount the pod should use:

```
apiVersion: v1
kind: Pod
metadata:
  name: my-serviceaccount-pod
spec:
  serviceAccountName: my-serviceaccount
  containers:
  - name: myapp-container
    image: busybox
    command: ['sh', '-c', "echo Hello, Kubernetes! && sleep 3600"]
```