Markdown Code Highlighting

Proof of Concept

*By: David Zaletanski*

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# Concept

Knowledge in it’s most fundamental form is represented as text. While the content of this text is the most important aspect functionally, formatting plays an equally important role for human interaction. Being able to properly format and organize text allows for information to be more easily identified, contextualized, and understood.

# Function

* Markdown is a text formatting syntax that can be created using a standard keyboard with any regular text editing tool. This markdown can then be translated in to a graphically organized document.
* Code Highlighting helps in analyzing and deciphering machine programming language code. Any knowledge base that includes computer and programming related information would benefit from techniques that help present readable code.

# Implementation

This proof of concept took two Javascript libraries to implement Markdown formatting and Code Highlighting:

1. Showdown
2. Highlight.js

Showdown is a library that converts markdown syntax text in to its equivalent HTML representation. Highlight.js is a library that provides formatting and syntax/language aware code highlighting to code. A Showdown extension combines these features such that code placed within a markdown text block will contain code highlighting.

This test project demonstrates:

* A static sample of code that is displayed with formatting and highlighting.
* A static sample of markdown text that is displayed with HTML formatting.
* A form where markdown text can be entered and converted to HTML and then displayed dynamically.

# References:

GitHub Showdown Repository

<https://github.com/showdownjs/showdown>

Showdown Demo

<http://softwaremaniacs.org/playground/showdown-highlight/>

Showdown HighlightJS Extension Code

<http://stackoverflow.com/questions/21785658/showdown-highlightjs-extension>

HighlightJS Website

<https://highlightjs.org>

GitHub HighlightJS Repository

<https://github.com/isagalaev/highlight.js/>

GitHub HighlightJS Build Instructions

<http://highlightjs.readthedocs.io/en/latest/building-testing.html>