Exercise 6.2: Using the Proxy

Another way to interact with the API is via a `proxy`. The proxy can be run from a node or from within a `Pod` through the use of a sidecar. In the following steps we will deploy a proxy listening to the loopback address. We will use **curl** to access the API server. If the **curl** request works, but does not from outside the cluster, we have narrowed down the issue to authentication and authorization instead of issues further along the API ingestion process.

1. Begin by starting the proxy. It will start in the foreground by default. There are several options you could pass. Begin by reviewing the help output.

```
student@cp:~$ kubectl proxy -h
```

```
Creates a proxy server or application-level gateway between localhost
and the Kubernetes API Server. It also allows serving static content
over specified HTTP path. All incoming data enters through one port
and gets forwarded to the remote kubernetes API Server port, except
for the path matching the static content path.

Examples:
  # To proxy all of the kubernetes api and nothing else, use:

  $ kubectl proxy --api-prefix=/
<output_omitted>
```

2. Start the proxy while setting the API prefix, and put it in the background. You may need to use `enter` to view the prompt. Take note of the process ID, 225000 in the example below, we'll use it to kill the process when we are done.

```
student@cp:~$ kubectl proxy --api-prefix=/ &
```

```
[1] 22500
Starting to serve on 127.0.0.1:8001
```

3. Now use the same **curl** command, but point toward the IP and port shown by the proxy. The output should be the same as without the proxy, but may be formatted differently.

```
student@cp:~$ curl http://127.0.0.1:8001/api/
```

```
<output_omitted>
```

4. Make an API call to retrieve the namespaces. The command did not work in the previous section due to permissions, but should work now as the `proxy` is making the request on your behalf.

```
student@cp:~$ curl http://127.0.0.1:8001/api/v1/namespaces
```

```
{
  "kind": "NamespaceList",
  "apiVersion": "v1",
  "metadata": {
    "selfLink": "/api/v1/namespaces",
    "resourceVersion": "86902"
<output_omitted>
```

5. Stop the proxy service as we won't need it any more. Use the process ID from a previous step. Your process ID may be different.

```
student@cp:~$ kill 22500
```