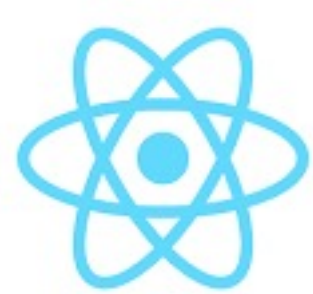


ReactJS.

Fundamentals

Agenda

- **Background.**
- **The V in MVC**
- **JSX (JavaScript Extension Syntax).**
- **Developer tools.**
- **React Component basics.**
- **(Material Design.)**

ReactJS.

- **A Javascript framework for building dynamic Web** User Interfaces**.**
  - **A Single Page Apps technology.**
  - **Open-sourced in 2012.**

- **Client-side framework.**
  - **More a library than a framework.**

Before ReactJS.

- MVC pattern **– The convention for** app design.
  - **Promoted by market leaders**, e.g. **AngularJS (1.x), EmberJS, BackboneJS.**
- **React is not MVC, just V.**
  - **It challenged established best practice.**
- Templating **– widespread use in the V layer.**
  - **React favored a** component model.

	Templates	**(React) Components**
Separation of concerns	Technology (JS, HTML)	Responsibility
Semantic	New concepts and micro-languages	HTML and Javascript
Expressiveness	Underpowered	Full power of Javascript

Components

- **Philosophy:** *Build components, not templates.*
- **All about the** User Interface **(UI).**
  - **Not about business logic or the data model (Mvc)**

- **Component - A unit comprised of:**

  UI description (HTML) + UI behavior (JS)
  - **Two aspects are tightly coupled and co-located.**
    - **Other frameworks decoupled them.**
  - **Benefits:**
    1. **Improved Composition.**
    2. **Greater Reusability.**

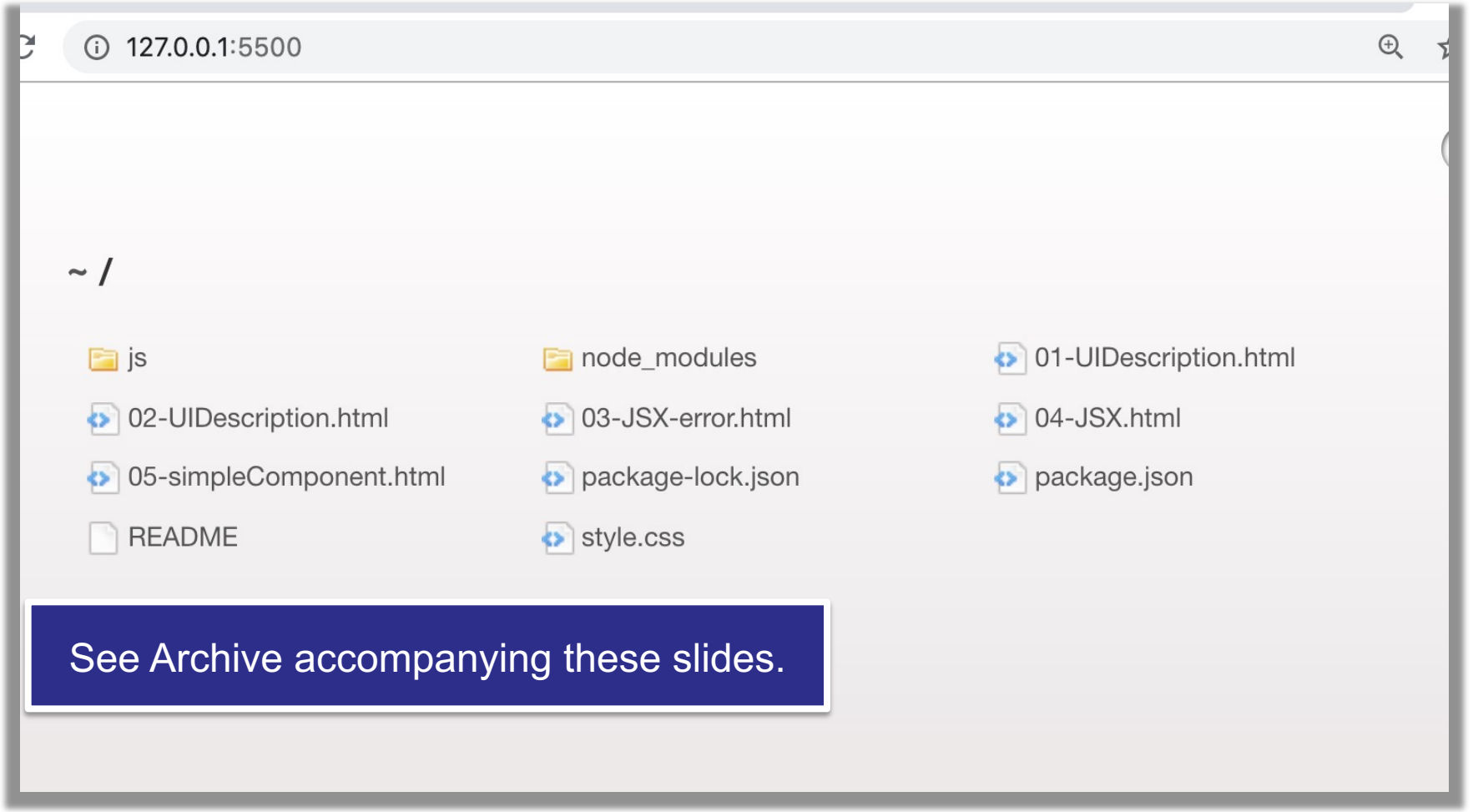
Creating the UI description

- React.createElement() **– create a HTML element.**
- ReactDOM.render() – **attach an element to the DOM.**

- React.createElement() **arguments**:
  1. **type (h1, div, button etc).**
  2. **properties (style, event handler etc).**
  3. **children (0 -> M).**
  - **We never use** createElement**() directly – too cumbersome.**

- ReacrDOM.render() **arguments:**
  1. **element to be displayed.**
  2. **DOM node on which to** mount **the element**.

Code Demos


127.0.0.1:5500
~ /
js
node_modules
01-UIDescription.html
02-UIDescription.html
03-JSX-error.html
04-JSX.html
05-simpleComponent.html
package-lock.json
package.json
README
style.css
See Archive accompanying these slides.

UI description implementation

(Vanilla React - the imperative way)

- **See the demos:**
  - **Ref.** 01-UIDescription.html.
  - **Nesting** createElement**() calls - Ref**. 02-UIDescription.html

---

Imperative programming is a programming paradigm that uses statements that change a program's state.

Declarative programming is a programming paradigm that expresses the logic of a computation without describing its control flow.

UI description implementation

(Developer-friendly - the declarative way)

- **JSX – JavaScript extension syntax.**

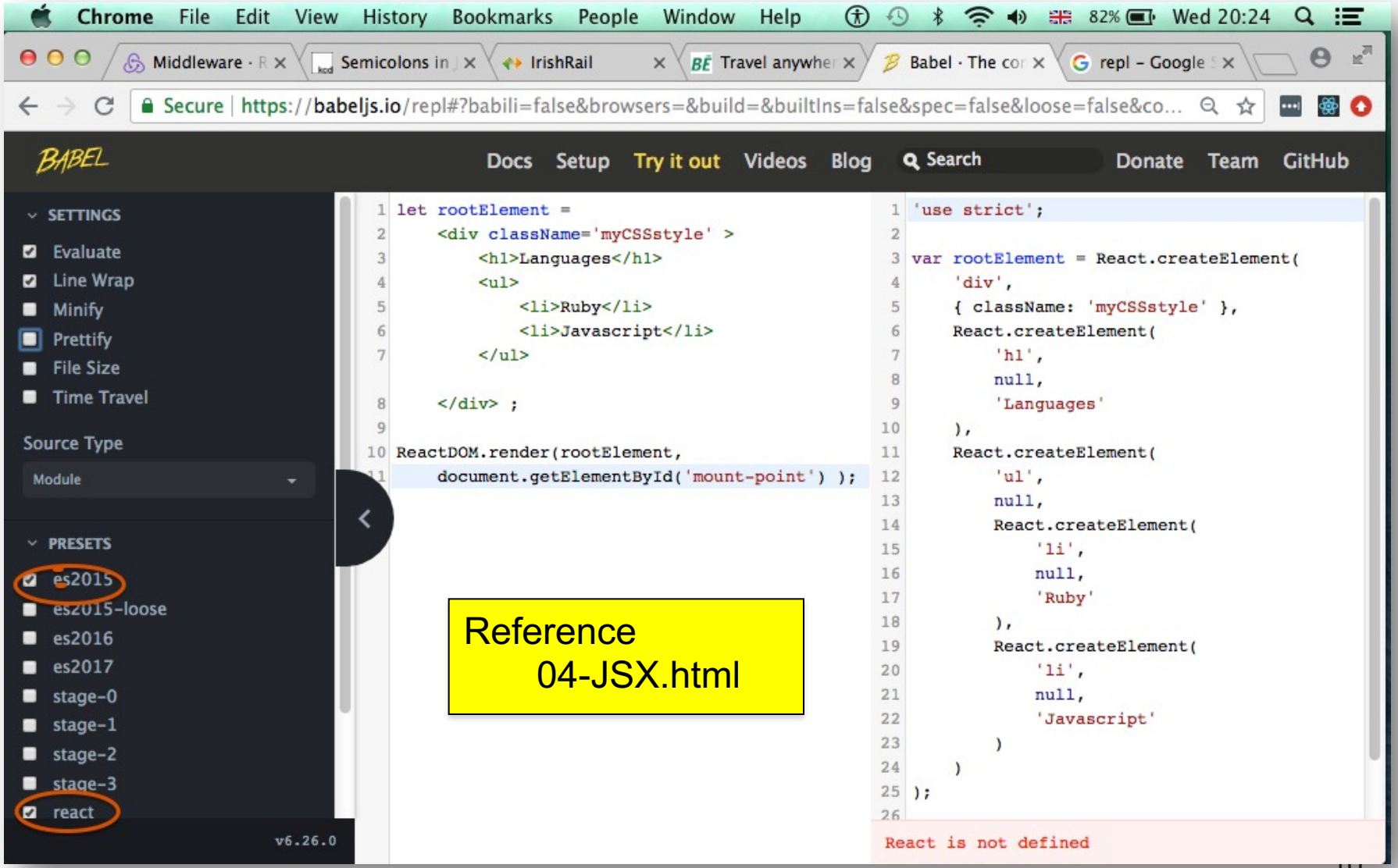
- **Declarative syntax for coding UI descriptions.**

- **Retains the full power of Javascript.**
- **Allows tight coupling between UI behavior and UI description.**

- **Must be transpiled to vanilla form before being sent to browser.**
  - **The Babel tool**

- **Reference** 03-JSX-error.html and 04-JSX.html

REPL (Read-Evaluate-Print-Loop) transpiler.



JSX.

- **HTML-like markup.**
  - **It's actually XML code.**
- **Some minor HTML tag attributes differences, e.g. className (class), htmlFor (for).**
- **Allows** UI description **to be coded in a** declarative style, **and be inlined in JavaScript.**
- **Combines the ease-of-use of templates with the power of JS.**

Transpiling JSX.

- **What?**
  - **The Babel platform.**

- **How?**
  1. **Manually, via REPL or command line.**
     - **When experimenting only.**
  2. **Using specially instrumented web server during development mode - the Webpack library..**
  3. **Using** bundler **tools as part the build process before deployment – Webpack again.**

React Components.

- **We develop COMPONENTS.**
  - **A** JS function **that returns a** UI description, i.e. JSX**.**

- **Can reference a component like a HTML tag.**
  e.g. ReactDOM.render(<ComponentX />, ...)

- **Reference** 05-simpleComponent.html

React Developer tools.

- create-react-app (CRA) **- Features:**
  - **Scaffolding/Generator.**
  - **Development web server: auto-transpilation on file change + live reloading.**
  - **Builder: build production standard version of app, i.e. minification, bundling.**

- Storybook - **Features:**
  - **A** development environment **for React components.**
  - **Allows components be developed in isolation.**
  - **Promotes more reusable, testable components.**
  - **Quicker development – ignore app-specific dependencies.**

- **Installation:**

  $ npm install @storybook/react

- **Tool has three aspects:**

  1. **An API/library.**

  2. **A web server.**

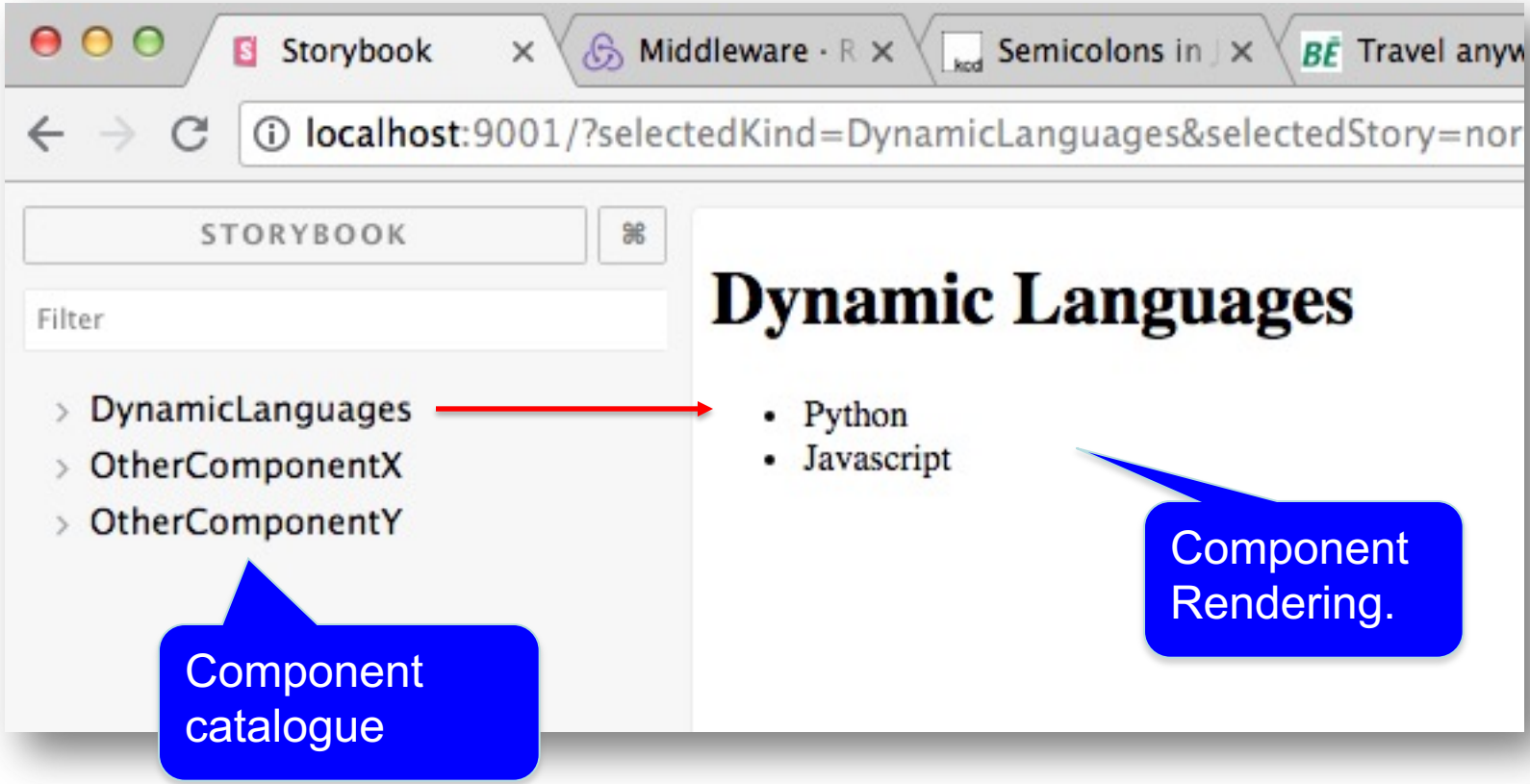
     $ ./node_modules/.bin/***start-storybook -p 6006 -c ./.storybo***ok

     • **Performs live re-transpilation and re-loading.**

  3. **Web browser user interface.**

STORYBOOK

- **Storybook User interface.**



STORYBOOK

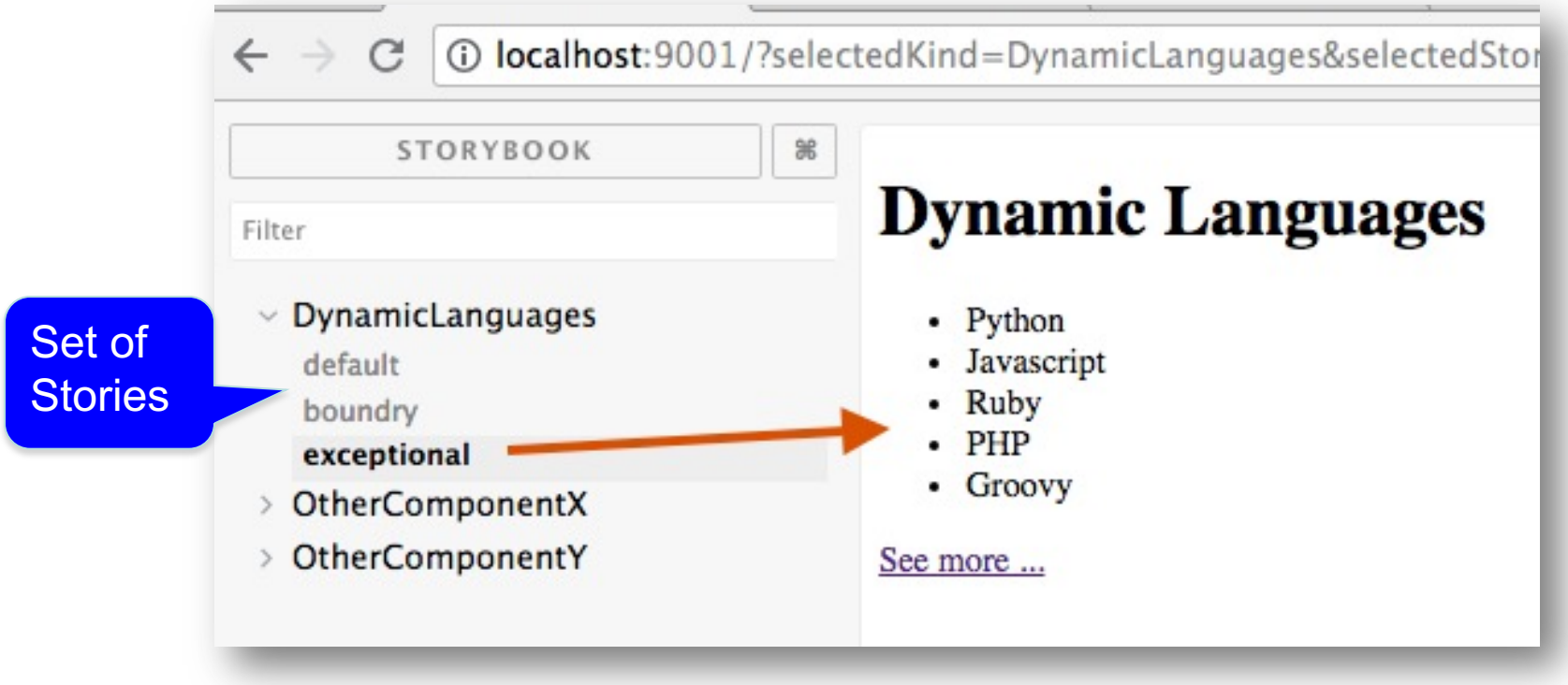
- **What is a Story?**
  - **From the User Story idea in User Requirements Analysis.**

- **A component may have several STATES → State effects how it renders.**
  - **Each state case is termed a STORY.**
  - **Stories are a design consideration.**

- EX.: DynamicLanguages **component – its states might be:**
  - Default **– 5 or less languages → Render full list**
  - Boundary **– empty list → Render 'No languages' message**
  - Exceptional **– More than 5 languages → Render first 5 and a 'See More…' link to display next 5.**

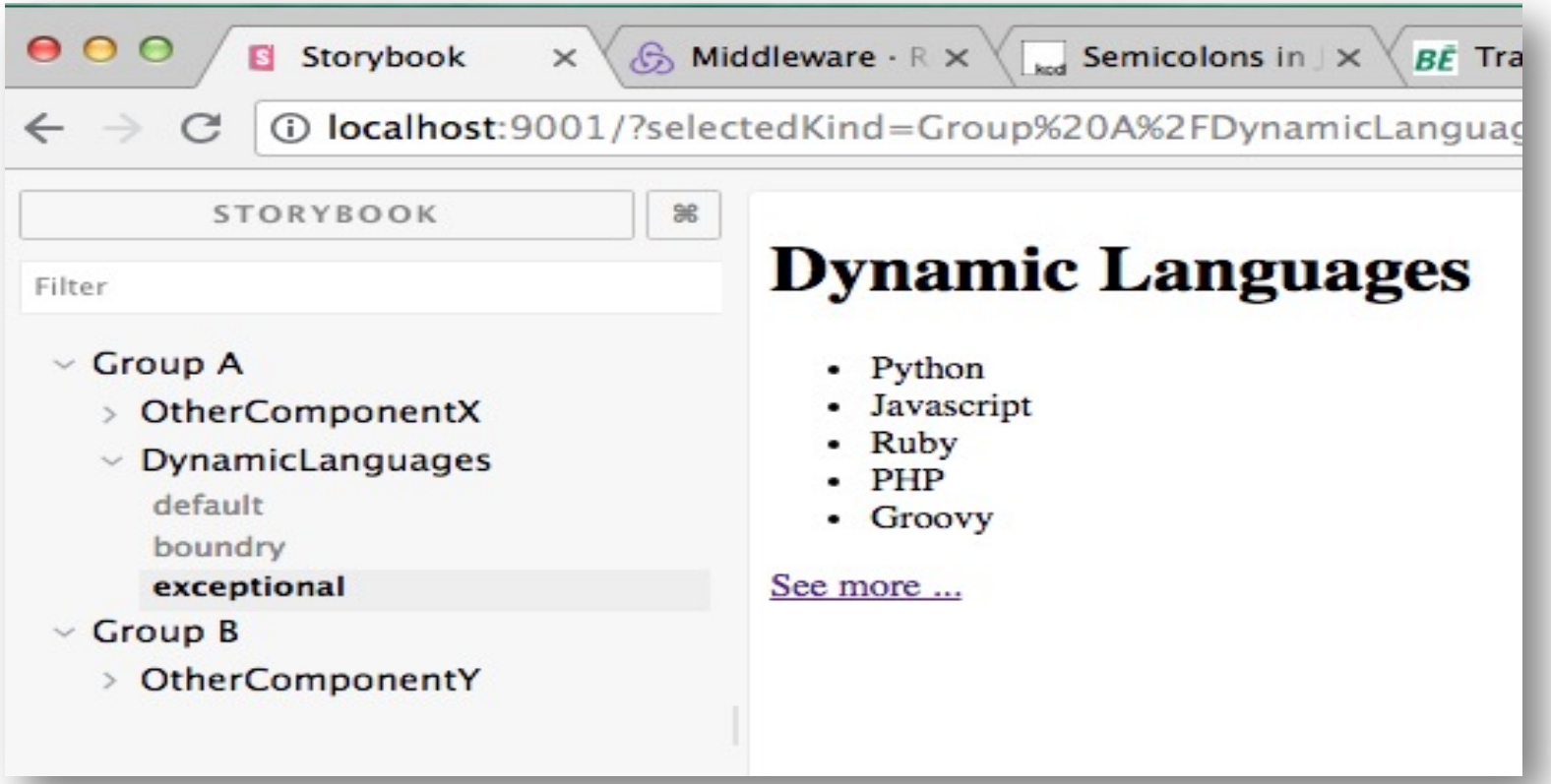
STORYBOOK

- **List a component's states/stories under its name:**



STORYBOOK

- **We can also define** groups **for large component libraries.**
  - **helps others team members with searching**.



Aside – JS Modularity.

- **Split application code into multiple files, termed modules.**
- **Reusability - make modules available to other modules..**
- **Pre-ES6 provided module system via separate library;**
- **ES6 modules built into language.**
  - **Two main options: Default exports; Named exports.**
    - **Also Mixed exports.**

```
29  // lib.js
30  export default function() {
31    ...
32  }
33  // ------------------------
34  // bar.js
35  import myFunc from './lib';
36  myFunc();
37
```

```
// lib,js  (Named exports)
export let myStr = 'important string';
export const pi = 3.14159526;
export function myFunc() {
  ...
}
export class myClass {
  ...
}
// ------------------------
// bar.js
import {myFunc, myStr} from './lib';
myFunc() ;
console.log(myStr)
```

Writing stories

- .stories.js **file extension (convention).**
- **One Stories file per component.**

```
import React from "react";
import DynamicLanguages from "../components/dynamicLanguages";

export default {
  title: "Dynamic Languages",
  component: DynamicLanguages,
};

export const Default  = () => {
    const list = ["Javascript", "Python", "Java", "C#"];
    return <DynamicLanguages languages={list}  />;
};

export const Exceptional  = () => {
  ..........................
};

export const Error  = () => {
  ..........................
};
```

- default export.
- Metadata.
- Used by Storybook UI

- Story implemented as a function.
- Named exports.
- 3 stories for this component

Writing stories (the old way)

- **Fluent-style syntax for writing stories.**
  - **Method chaining programming style.**


```
1  import React from 'react';
2  import { storiesOf } from '@storybook/react';
3  import DynamicLanguages from '../components/dynam
4
5  storiesOf('DynamicLanguages', module)
6    .add('default',
7        () =>  {
8            let languages = ['Python', 'Javascript', 'Ruby']
9            return  <DynamicLanguages list={languages} />
10       }
11   )
12   .add('boundry',
13       () =>  . . . . .
14   )
15   .add('exceptional',
16      () => . . . . . .
17   )
18
19   storiesOf('OtherComponentX', module)
20     .add('state 1',
21       () => . . . . . .
22   )
23    . . . . . .
```

Grouping stories.

- **Use directory pathname symbol (/) to indicate component grouping (i.e.** group*/subgroup/….).*

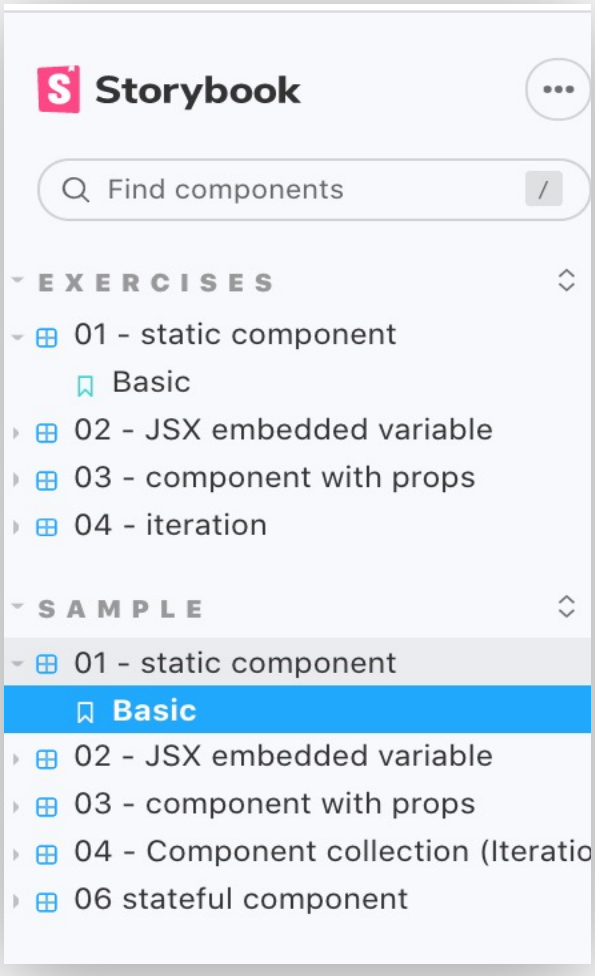
```
export default {
  title: "Group A/ Component 1",
  component: Component1,
};

... stories ...
```

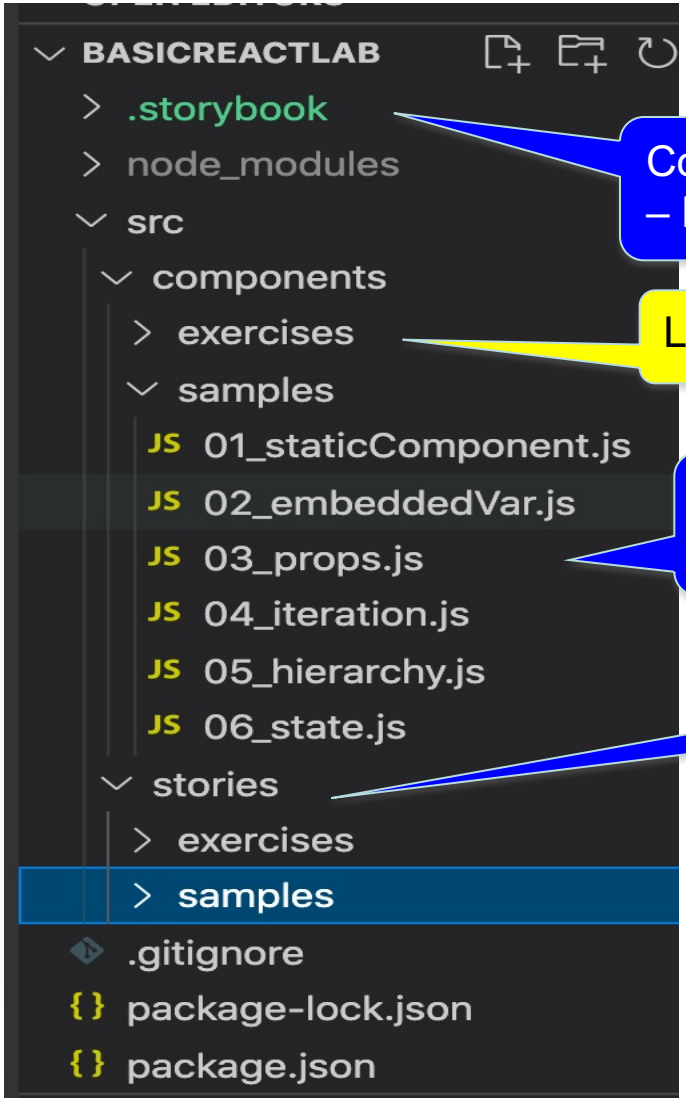
```
export default {
  title: "Group A/ Component 2",
  component: Component2,
};

... stories ...
```

```
export default {
  title: "Group B/ Component X",
  component: Component1,
};

... stories ...
```

… back to components . . .

Demo Samples





JSX - embedded variables.

- **Dereference variable embedded in JSX using { } braces.**
  - **Braces can contain any valid JS expression.**
- **Reference** samples/02_embeddedVariables.js

JS 02_embeddedVar.js

components > samples > JS 02_embeddedVar.js > ...

```
1   import React from "react";
2
3   const Demo = () => {
4     const languages = ["Go", "Julia", "Kotlin"];
5     const header = "Modern";
6     return (
7       <div>
8         <h1>{`${header} Languages`}</h1>
9         <ul>
10          <li>{languages[0]}</li>
11          <li>{languages[1]} </li>
12          <li>{languages[2]} </li>
13        </ul>
14      </div>
15    );
16  };
17
18  export default Demo
```

Reusability.

- **We achieve reusability through** parameterization**.**
- props **– Component properties / attribute / parameters.**
  1. **Passing props to a component:**

     <CompName prop1Name={value} prop2Name={value} . . . . />
  2. **Access inside component via** props **object:**

     const ComponentName = (props) => {

         const p1 = props.prop1Name

         . . . . . .
  3. **Props are** Immutable**.**
  4. **Choosing appropriate props is a design issue.**

- **Reference** samples/03_props.js **(and related story).**

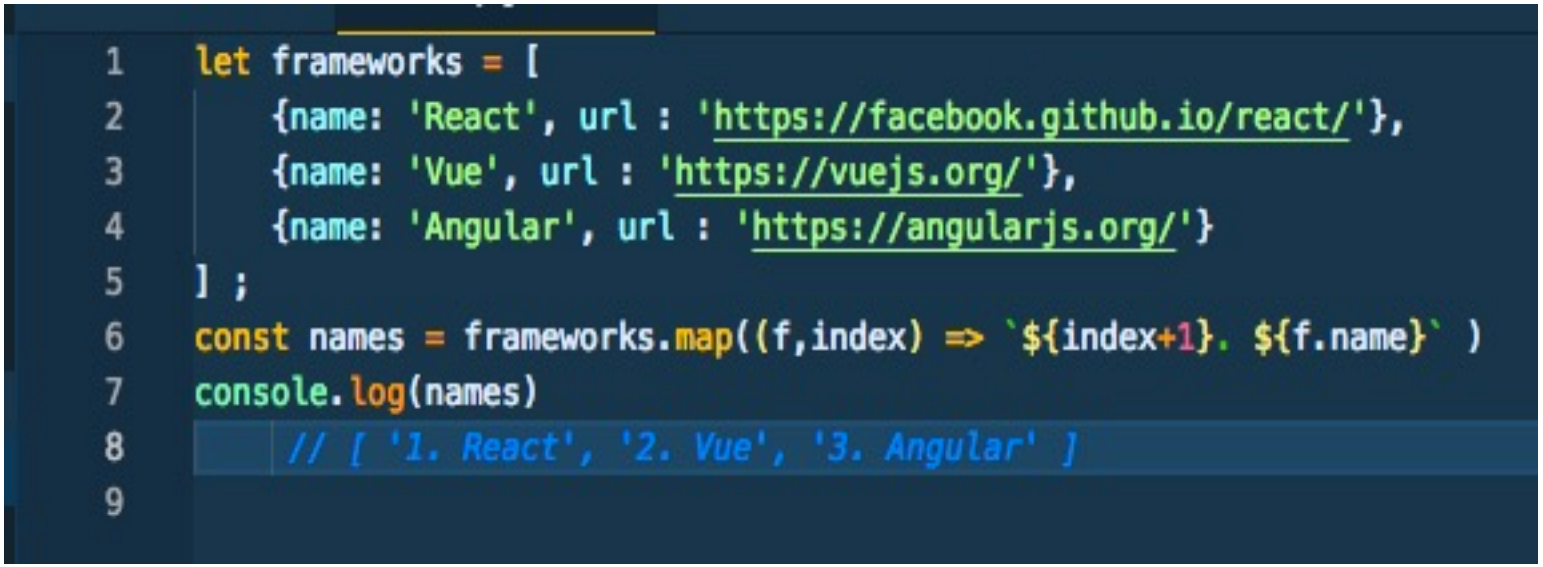
Aside – Some JS features

- **When an arrow function has only ONE statement, which is its return value, then you may omit:**
  - **Body curly braces; 'return' keyword.**

```
const increment = (num) => {
    return num + 1
}

const increment = (num) => num + 1
```

Aside – Some JS features

- **The Array** map **method – returns a new array based on applying the function argument to each element of the source array.**



```
let frameworks = [
    {name: 'React', url : 'https://facebook.github.io/react/'},
    {name: 'Vue', url : 'https://vuejs.org/'},
    {name: 'Angular', url : 'https://angularjs.org/'}
] ;
const names = frameworks.map((f,index) => `${index+1}. ${f.name}` )
console.log(names)
    // [ '1. React', '2. Vue', '3. Angular' ]
```

Aside – Some JS features.

- **We can assign a** single **JSX element to a variable.**

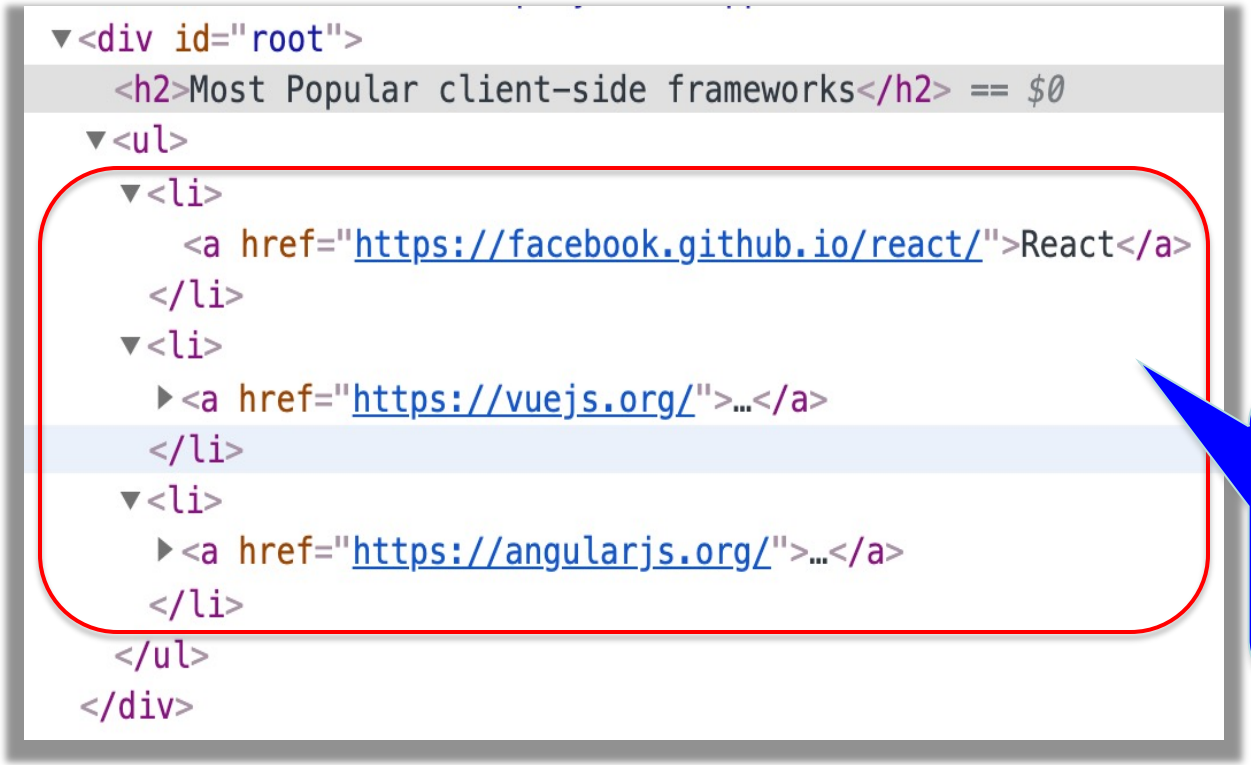
```
const demo = <div>
                <h1>Something</h1>
                <h2>Something else</h2>
             </div> ;
```

- **Why?**

```
const demo = React.createElement(
  "div",
  null,
  React.createElement("h1", null, "Something"),
  React.createElement("p", null, "Some text ...")
);
```

Component collection - Iteration

- **Use case: We want to generate an array of (similar) component from a data array.**
- **Reference** samples/04_iteration.js



Component return value.

- **Examples:**;
  1. return <MyComponent prop1={…..} prop2={……} /> ;
  2. return (

```
<div>
  <h1>{this.props.type}</h1>
  <MyComponent prop1={…..} prop2={……} />
  <p>
     . . . . . .
  </p>
</div>
```

) ;

  – **Must enclose in ( ) when multiline.**

Component return value.

- **Must return only ONE element.**
- **Error Examples:**
  - return (

```
<h1>{this.props.type}</h1>
<MyComponent prop1={…..} prop2={……} />
<p>
    . . . . . .
</p>
```

) ;
  - **Error** – ‘Adjacent JSX elements must be wrapped in an enclosing tag’
  - **Solution: Wrap elements in a tag.**

Component return value.

- **Old solution:**

```
return (
    <div>
        <h1> ……</h1>
        <MyComponent …… />
        <p> …….. </p>
     </div>
    ) ;
```

- **Adds unnecessary depth to DOM → effects performance.**

- **Alternative solution:**

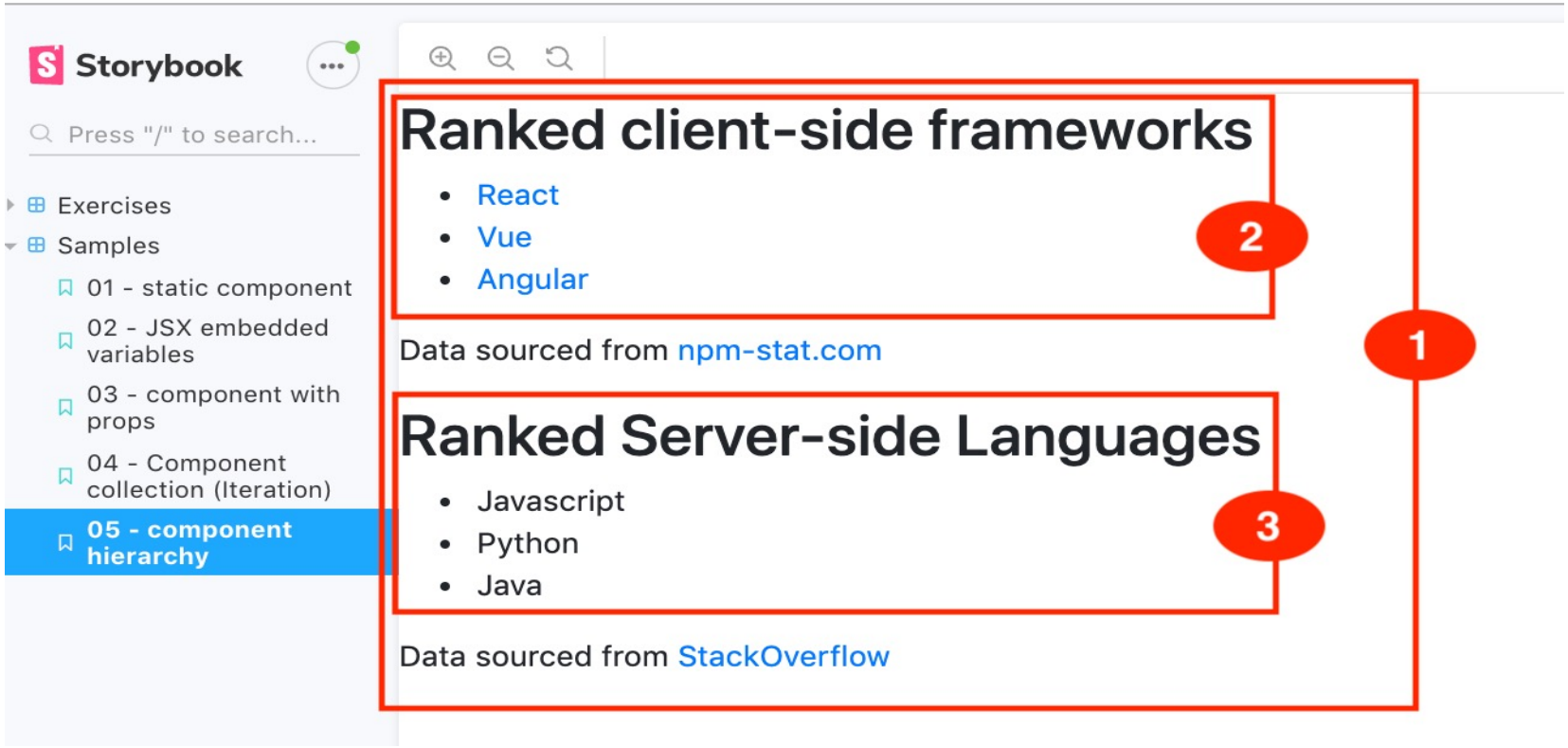
```
return (
    <>
        <h1> ……</h1>
        <MyComponent …… />
        <p> …….. </p>
     </>
    ) ;
```

- **<> </> – special React element, termed a** Fragment**.**
  - **No DOM presence.**

Component ***Hierarchy***.

All React application are designed as a hierarchy of components.

- **Components have** children **– nesting.**
- **Ref.** 05_hierarchy.js.



Summary.

- **JSX.**
  - **UI** description **and** behaviour **tightly coupled.**
  - **Can embed variables/expressions with braces.**
- **All about components.**
  - **A function that takes a props argument and returns a single JSX element .**
  - **Components can be nested.**
- **Storybook tool.**
  - **Develop components in isolation.**
  - **Story – the state (data values) of a component can effect its rendering (and behaviour).**