RESTful Web API Design with Node.js

Saleh Hamadeh

Video 1.4

Identifying REST Resources

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In this Video, we are going to take a look at...

- Collection
- Element
- Procedure

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Collection

- A collection is a group of elements with the same representation

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A Collection's Interface

- A collection's endpoint, or HTTP URL path, ends with the collection's name

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A Collection's Interface

- Collection endpoints support the following HTTP methods
  - GET
    - List the collection's elements
  - POST
    - Insert an element to the collection
  - PUT
    - Replace the entire collection with another collection
  - DELETE
    - Delete the entire collection

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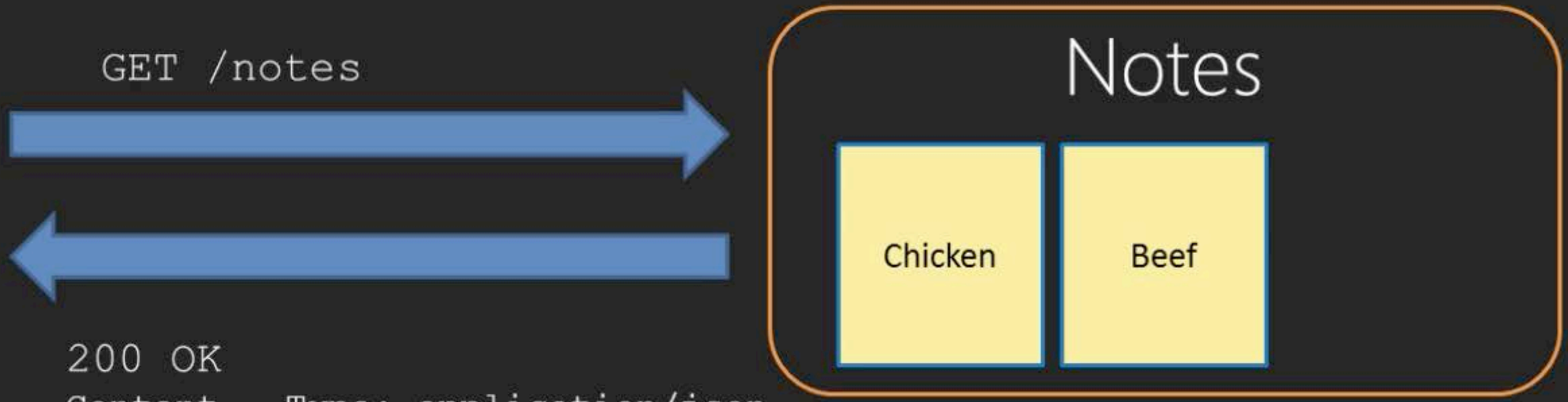
GET a Collection




```
200 OK
Content - Type: application/json
[
  {"id": "1", "content": "Chicken"},
  {"id": "2", "content": "Beef"},
]
```

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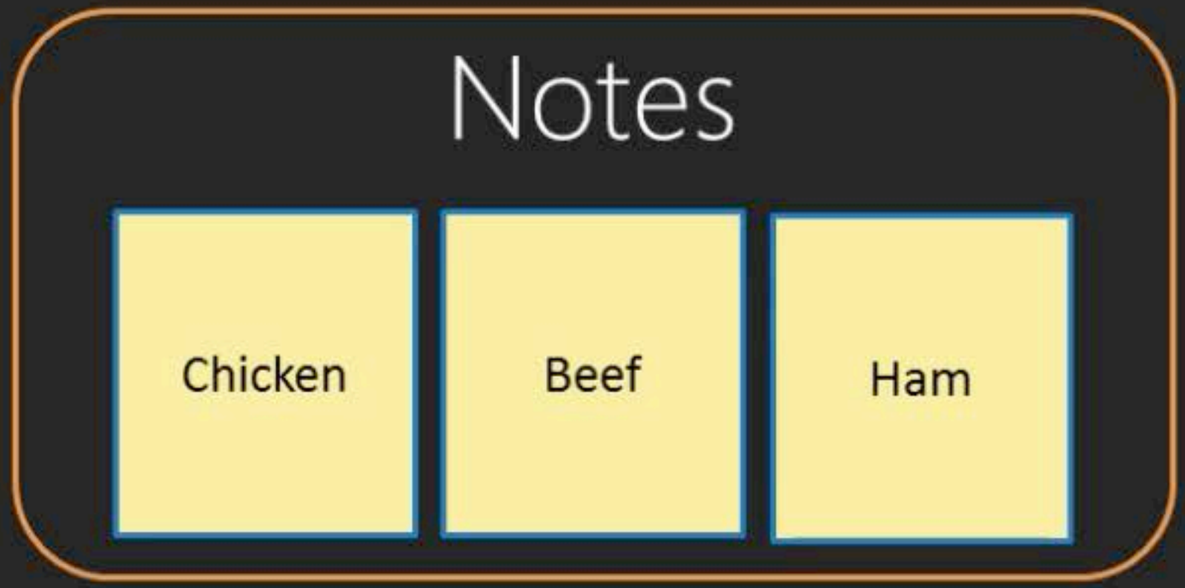
POST to a Collection

```
POST /notes
{
  "content": "Ham"
}
```




```
201 Created
{
  "id": "3",
  "content": "Ham"
}
```

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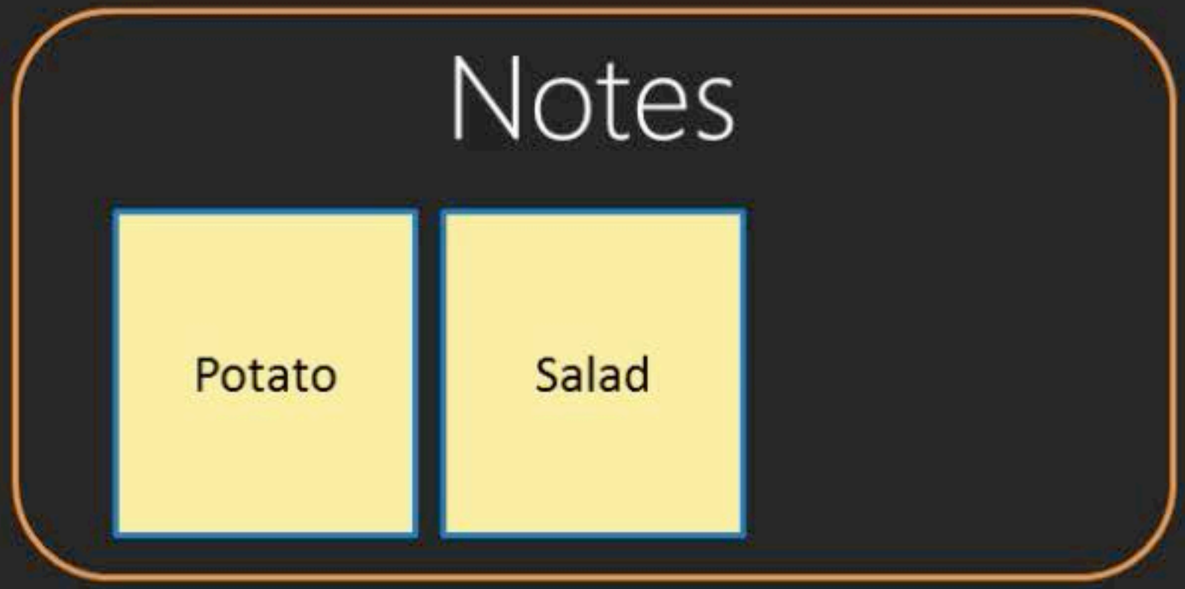
PUT a Collection

```
PUT /notes
[
  {"id": "100", "content": "Potato"},
  {"id": "101", "content": "Salad"}
]
```

200 OK



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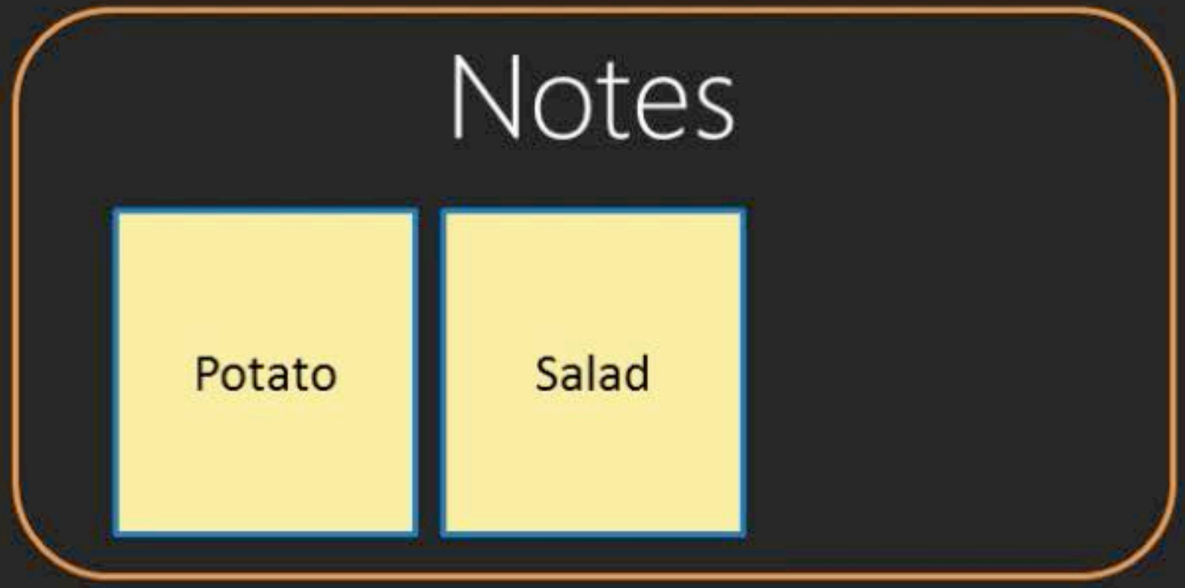
DELETE a Collection

```
DELETE /notes
```



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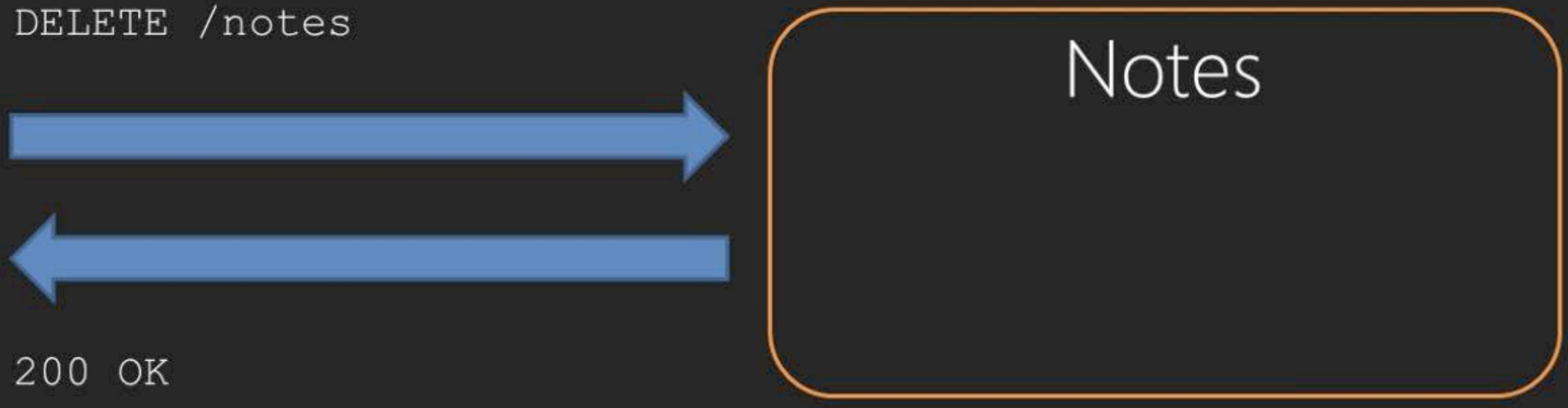
DELETE a Collection



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Element

- An element represents a single entity

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An Element's Interface

- An element's endpoint, or HTTP URL path, ends with the element's ID
  - /events/12345
  - /user-500/messages/16

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An Element's Interface

- Element endpoints support the following HTTP methods
  - GET
    - Get the element
  - PUT
    - Update the element
  - DELETE
    - Remove the element from the collection

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Remote Procedures

- Remote procedures do not have a standard for naming their endpoints

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Remote Procedures

- Remote procedures do not have a standard for naming their endpoints
- Rules of thumb:
  - Use verbs that describe the procedure that is being executed. For example, /search or /reply

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Remote Procedures

- Remote procedures do not have a standard for naming their endpoints
- Rules of thumb:
  - Use verbs that describe the procedure that is being executed. For example, /search or /reply
  - Use GET for safe procedures and POST, PUT, or DELETE for unsafe procedures

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Next Video

Properties of RESTful APIs

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