React

express()

returns

createClass

Creates a Component class given a specification

Specification has a render property that returns something which will eventually resolve to html.

Doesn’t necesarily include html.

May contain jsx, html, or a mixture of both

react knows how to differentiate between react jsx markup and pure html

within createClass specification, this refers to the instance.

createElement

ReactDom

Allows escape hatch out of react model

ReactComponent render(  
 ReactElement element,  
 DOMElement container,  
 [function callback]  
)

Renders a ReactElement into the DOM in the supplied container

Controls the content of passed in container

If dom already exists in container, react updates the element using react diffing algorithm.

Returns a ref to the component, or null for stateless components

Properties

this.props.children

Refers to all the children components.

Component class

render

returns a single child

child may have a child structure of any depth

ReactElement

May include markup content

Concepts

JSX Compiler

Compiles JSX syntax into pure javascript

Compiles html into ReactJS API calls

Data

Data may be passed to child

Child accesses data via data property (this.props)

Terms

Specification object

JSON object containing properties expected by function it is passed to.

Stateless component

TODO

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Reference

<https://facebook.github.io/react/docs/top-level-api.html>