

## Lesson 04 Demo 01

### Demonstrating Basic Routing in a React Application

**Objective:** To demonstrate seamless navigation and rendering between pages or components in a React application using React Router

**Tools required:** Visual Studio Code and Node.js

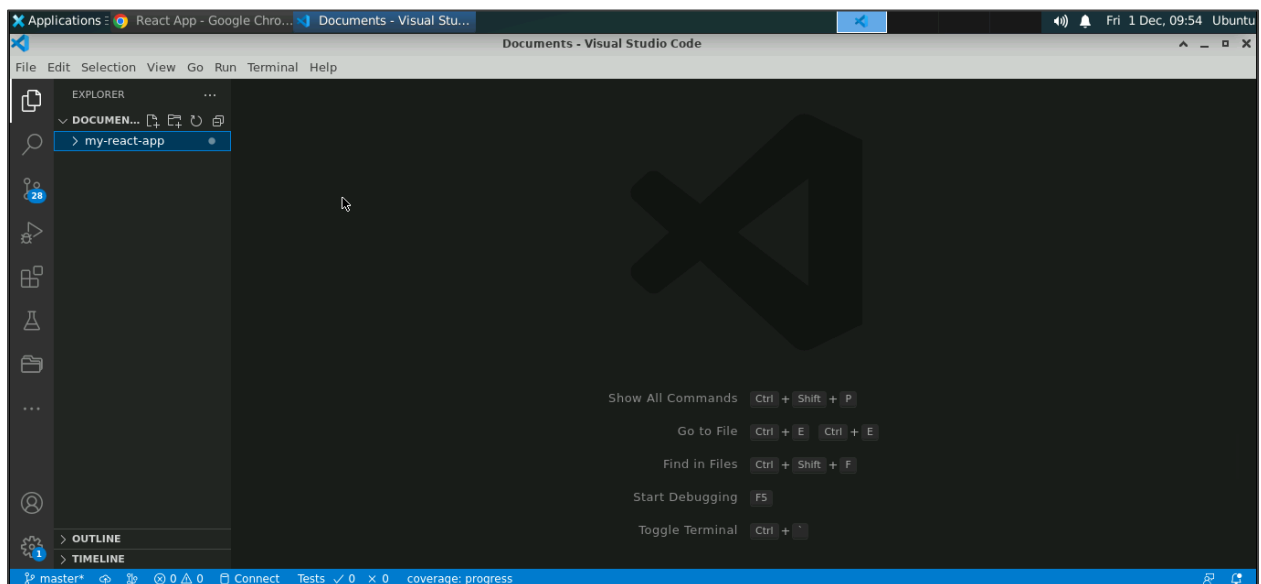
**Prerequisites:** A basic understanding of React Router

Steps to be followed:

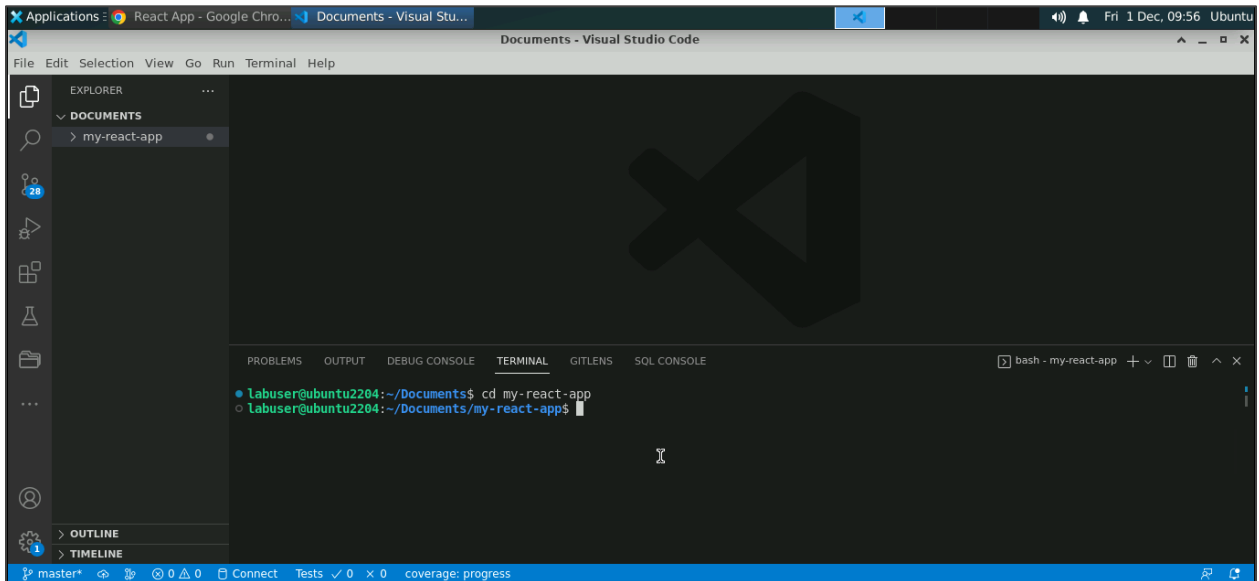
1. Set up the project
2. Install React Router
3. Create simple routes
4. Run the application

#### Step 1: Set up the project

1.1 Open **Visual Studio Code** and create a new folder named **my-react-app**

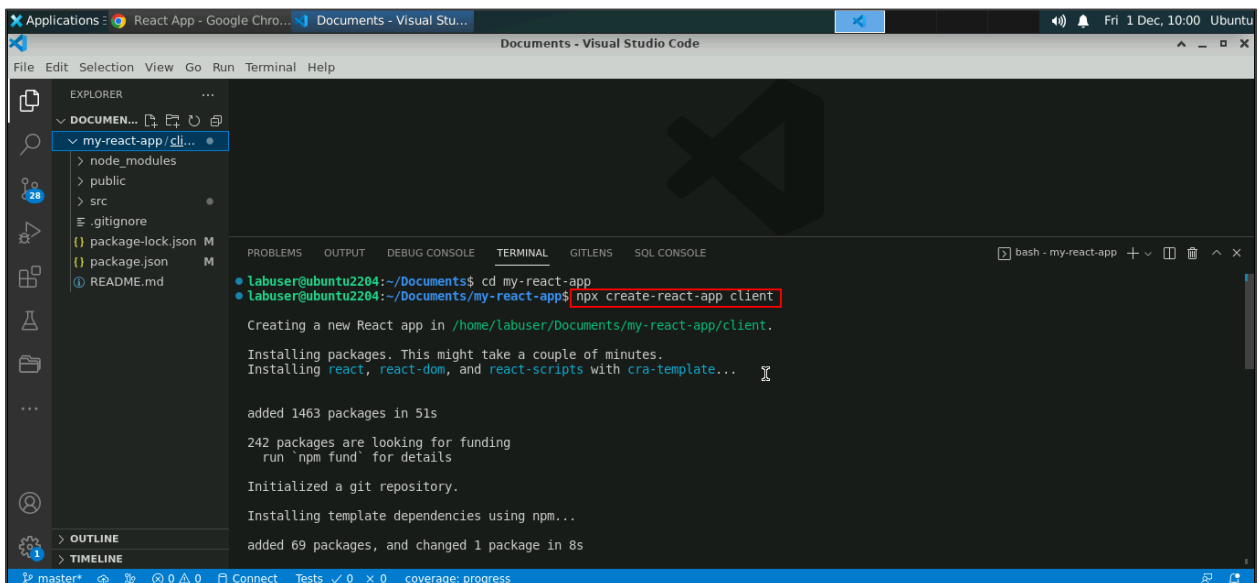


- 1.2 Open the terminal and navigate to the **my-react-app** folder using the following command:  
**cd my-react-app**



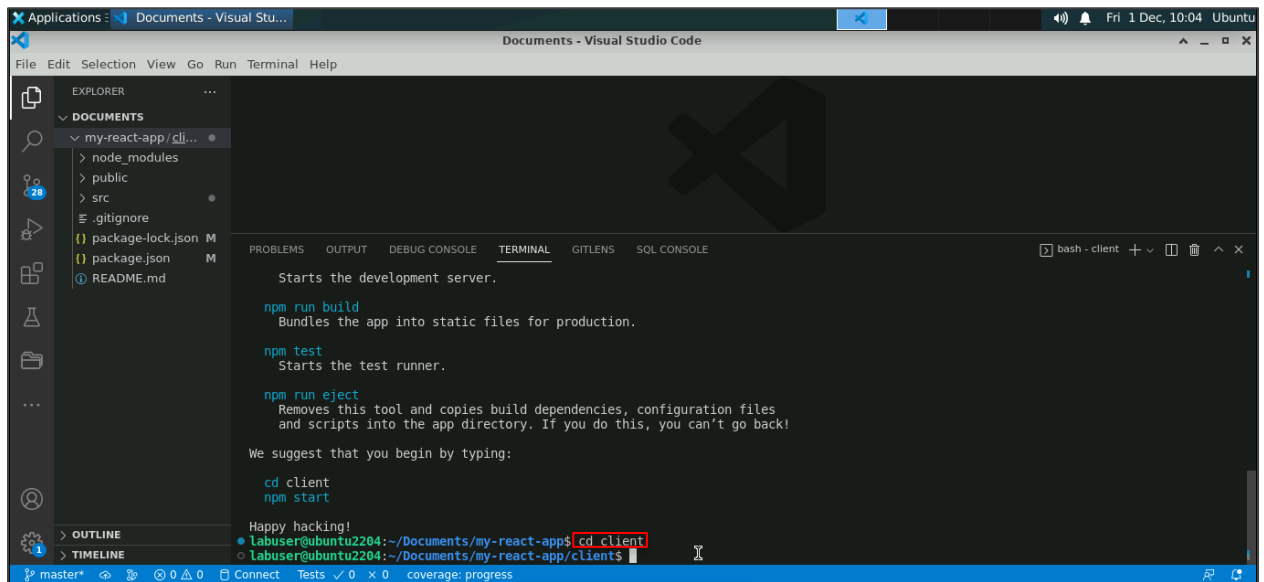
The screenshot shows the Visual Studio Code interface. The Explorer panel on the left shows the 'DOCUMENTS' folder expanded, with 'my-react-app' selected. The Terminal panel at the bottom shows the command prompt 'labuser@ubuntu2204:~/Documents\$' and the command 'cd my-react-app' being entered. The status bar at the bottom indicates 'master' branch, '0' errors, '0' warnings, and '0' info messages.

- 1.3 Initialize a new React app using the following command:  
**npx create-react-app client**



The screenshot shows the Visual Studio Code interface. The Explorer panel on the left shows the 'my-react-app' folder expanded, with 'client' selected. The Terminal panel at the bottom shows the command prompt 'labuser@ubuntu2204:~/Documents\$' and the command 'npx create-react-app client' being entered. The output of the command is visible, showing the creation of a new React app in '/home/labuser/Documents/my-react-app/client'. The status bar at the bottom indicates 'master' branch, '0' errors, '0' warnings, and '0' info messages.

## 1.4 Navigate to the **client** folder using the following command: **cd client**



The screenshot shows the Visual Studio Code interface with the Explorer panel on the left showing the file structure of a project named 'my-react-app'. The file structure includes 'node\_modules', 'public', 'src', '.gitignore', 'package-lock.json', 'package.json', and 'README.md'. The Terminal panel at the bottom shows the following commands and outputs:

```

Starts the development server.

npm run build
Bundles the app into static files for production.

npm test
Starts the test runner.

npm run eject
Removes this tool and copies build dependencies, configuration files
and scripts into the app directory. If you do this, you can't go back!

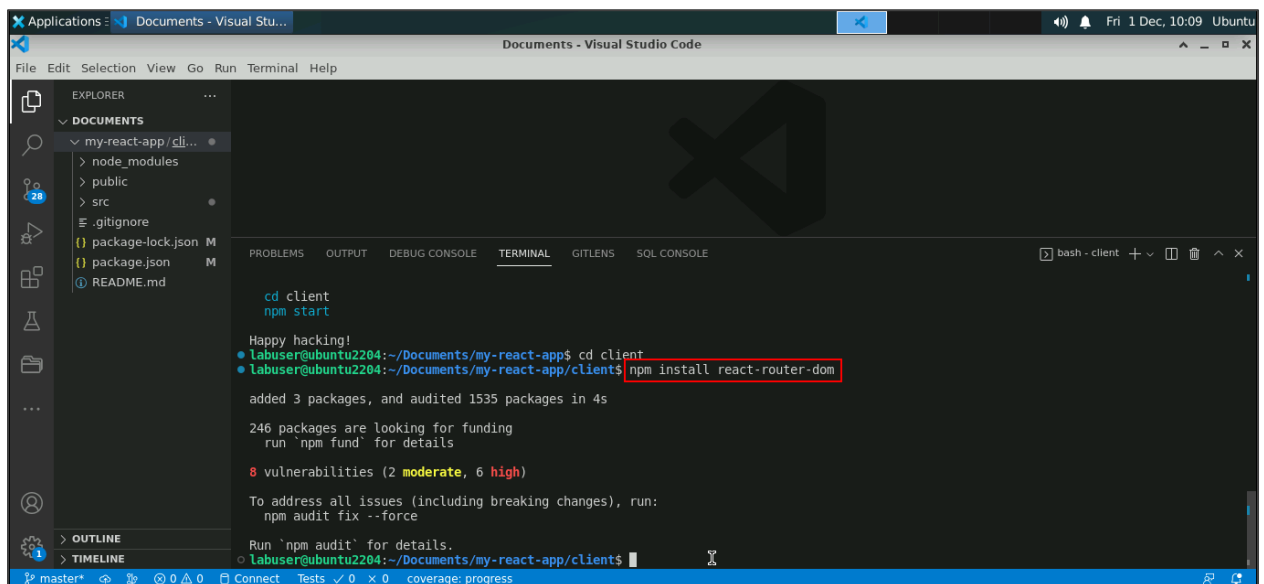
We suggest that you begin by typing:

cd client
npm start

Happy hacking!
labuser@ubuntu2204:~/Documents/my-react-app$ cd client
labuser@ubuntu2204:~/Documents/my-react-app/client$
  
```

## Step 2: Install React Router

### 2.1 Install React Router using the following command: **npm install react-router-dom**



The screenshot shows the Visual Studio Code interface with the Explorer panel on the left showing the file structure of a project named 'my-react-app'. The file structure includes 'node\_modules', 'public', 'src', '.gitignore', 'package-lock.json', 'package.json', and 'README.md'. The Terminal panel at the bottom shows the following commands and outputs:

```

cd client
npm start

Happy hacking!
labuser@ubuntu2204:~/Documents/my-react-app$ cd client
labuser@ubuntu2204:~/Documents/my-react-app/client$ npm install react-router-dom

added 3 packages, and audited 1535 packages in 4s

246 packages are looking for funding
  run `npm fund` for details

8 vulnerabilities (2 moderate, 6 high)

To address all issues (including breaking changes), run:
  npm audit fix --force

Run `npm audit` for details.
labuser@ubuntu2204:~/Documents/my-react-app/client$
  
```

## Step 3: Create simple routes

### 3.1 In the **client/src** folder, create a new folder named **components**

The screenshot shows the Visual Studio Code interface. In the Explorer panel on the left, the file tree for 'my-react-app/client/src' is visible. A new folder named 'components' has been created and is highlighted with a red box. The main editor area shows the terminal output of the following commands:

```
cd client
npm start
```

The terminal output includes the following text:

```
Happy hacking!
labuser@ubuntu2204:~/Documents/my-react-app$ cd client
labuser@ubuntu2204:~/Documents/my-react-app/client$ npm install react-router-dom
added 3 packages, and audited 1535 packages in 4s
246 packages are looking for funding
run 'npm fund' for details
8 vulnerabilities (2 moderate, 6 high)
To address all issues (including breaking changes), run:
npm audit fix --force
Run 'npm audit' for details.
labuser@ubuntu2204:~/Documents/my-react-app/client$
```

### 3.2 Inside the **components** folder, create a new JavaScript file named **Home.js**

The screenshot shows the Visual Studio Code interface. In the Explorer panel on the left, the file tree for 'my-react-app/client/src/components' is visible. A new file named 'Home.js' has been created and is highlighted with a red box. The main editor area shows the content of the 'Home.js' file:

```
my-react-app > client > src > components > JS Home.js
1
```

The terminal output at the bottom of the screen shows the same vulnerability scan results as in the previous screenshot:

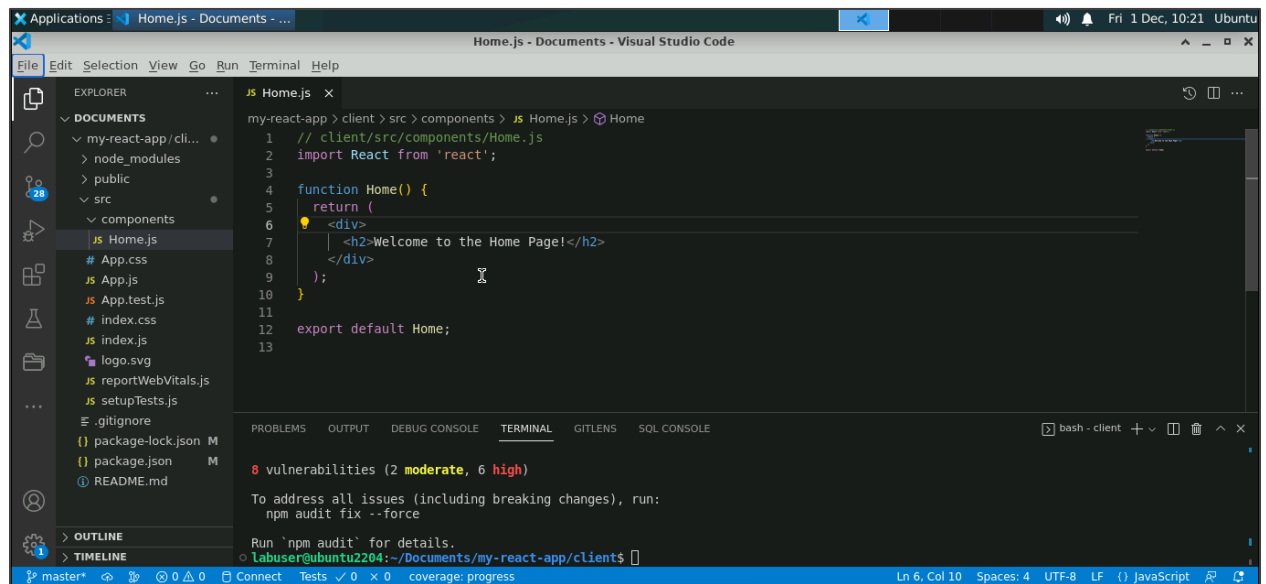
```
8 vulnerabilities (2 moderate, 6 high)
To address all issues (including breaking changes), run:
npm audit fix --force
Run 'npm audit' for details.
labuser@ubuntu2204:~/Documents/my-react-app/client$
```

3.3 Add the following code to the **Home.js** file:

```
// client/src/components/Home.js
import React from 'react';

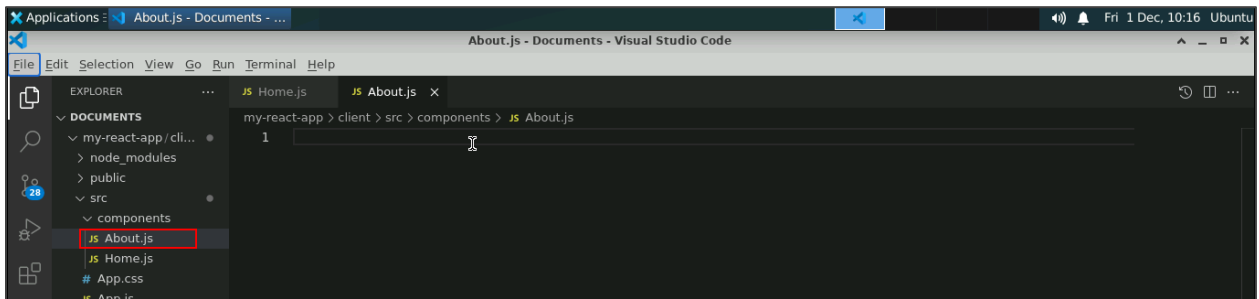
function Home() {
  return (
    <div>
      <h2>Welcome to the Home Page!</h2>
    </div>
  );
}

export default Home;
```



**Note:** Save the file

### 3.4 Inside the **components** folder, create a new JavaScript file named **About.js**



### 3.5 Add the following code to the **About.js** file:

```
// client/src/components/About.js
```

```
import React from 'react';
```

```
function About() {
```

```
  return (
```

```
    <div>
```

```
      <h2>About Us</h2>
```

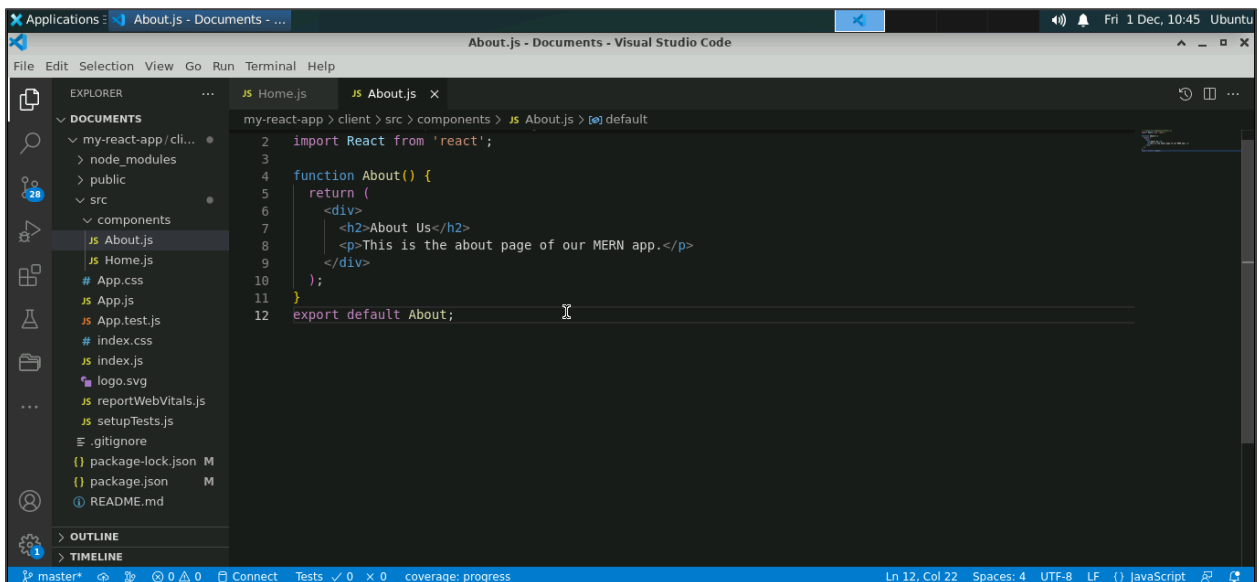
```
      <p>This is the about page of our MERN app.</p>
```

```
    </div>
```

```
  );
```

```
}
```

```
export default About;
```



3.6 Replace the existing code in the **App.js** file with the following code:

```
// client/src/App.js
import React from 'react';
import { Routes, Route, Link } from 'react-router-dom';
import Home from './components/Home';
import About from './components/About';

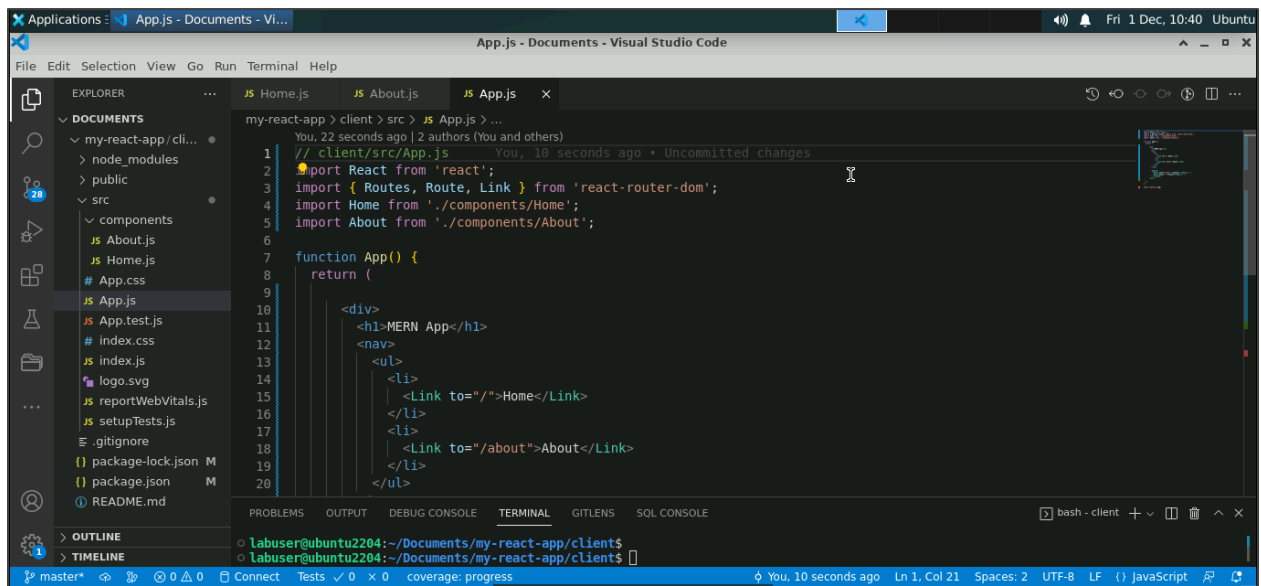
function App() {
  return (

    <div>
      <h1>MERN App</h1>
      <nav>
        <ul>
          <li>
            <Link to="/">Home</Link>
          </li>
          <li>
            <Link to="/about">About</Link>
          </li>
        </ul>
      </nav>

      <Routes>
        <Route path="/about" element={ <About/> } />
        <Route path="/" element={ <Home/> } />
      </Routes>
    </div>

  );
}

export default App;
```



3.7 Replace the existing code in the **index.js** file with the following code:

```
import React from 'react';
import ReactDOM from 'react-dom/client';
import './index.css';
import App from './App';
import reportWebVitals from './reportWebVitals';
import {BrowserRouter} from 'react-router-dom'
```

```
const root = ReactDOM.createRoot(document.getElementById('root'));
root.render(
  <BrowserRouter>

  <React.StrictMode>
    <App />
  </React.StrictMode>
  </ BrowserRouter>
);
```

```
// If you want to start measuring performance in your app, pass a function
// to log results (for example: reportWebVitals(console.log))
// or send to an analytics endpoint. Learn more: https://bit.ly/CRA-vitals
reportWebVitals();
```



```

my-react-app > client > src > JS index.js > ...
You, 1 second ago | 2 authors (Ubuntu and others)
1 import React from 'react';
2 import ReactDOM from 'react-dom/client';
3 import './index.css';
4 import App from './App';
5 import reportWebVitals from './reportWebVitals';
6 import {BrowserRouter} from 'react-router-dom'
7
8 const root = ReactDOM.createRoot(document.getElementById('root'));
9 root.render(
10   <BrowserRouter>
11
12   <React.StrictMode>
13     <App />
14   </React.StrictMode>
15 )

```

8 vulnerabilities (2 moderate, 6 high)

To address all issues (including breaking changes), run:  
npm audit fix --force

Run 'npm audit' for details.

labuser@ubuntu2204:~/Documents/my-react-app/client\$

**Note:** Save all the files

## Step 4: Run the application

4.1 Navigate to the **index.js**, and start the react development server using the following command:  
**npm start**

```

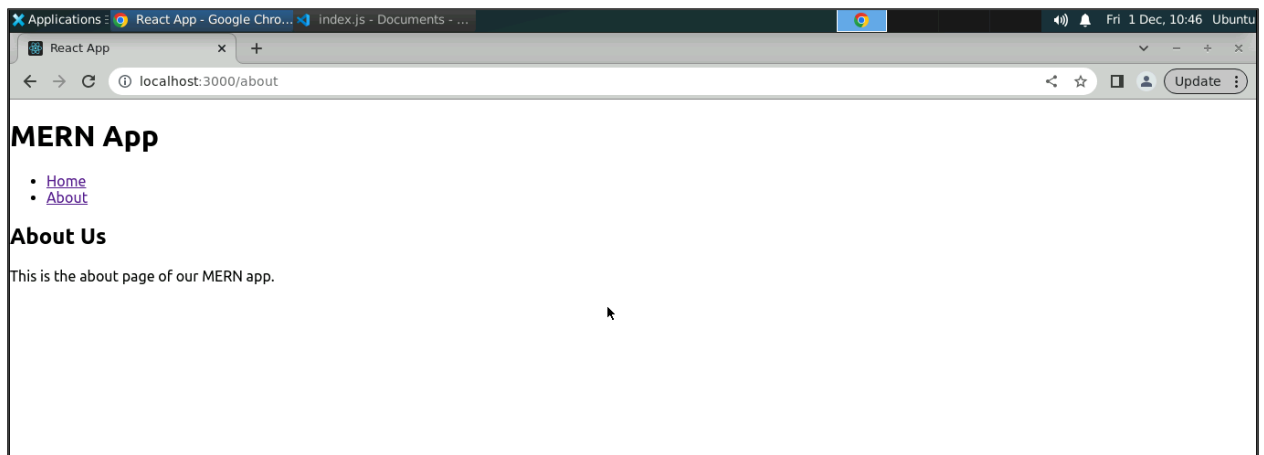
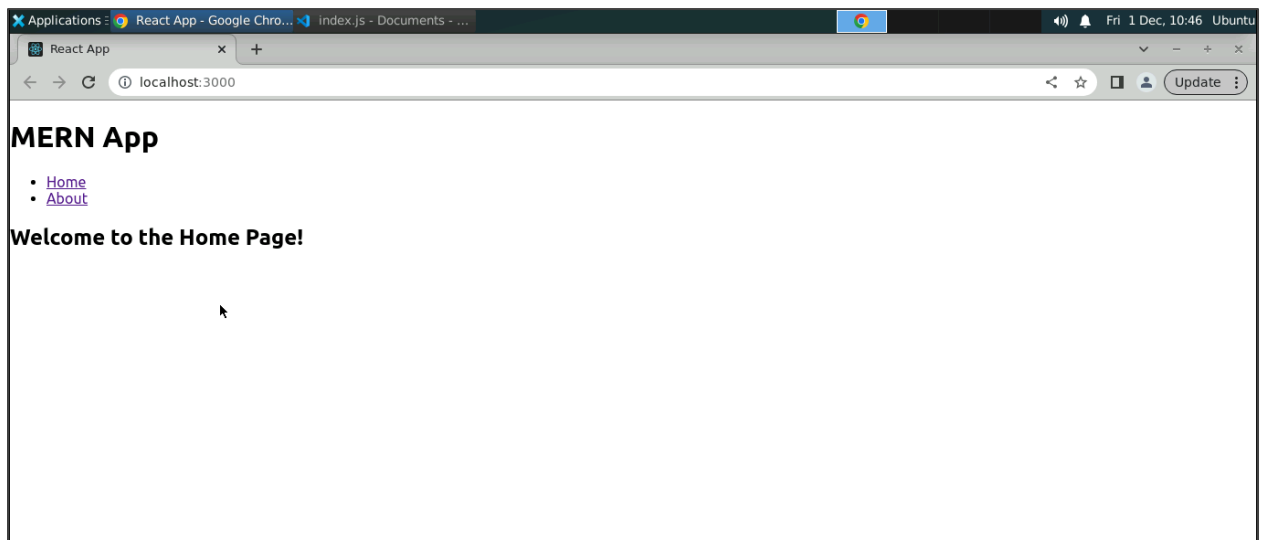
18
19 // If you want to start measuring performance in your app, pass a function
20 // to log results (for example: reportWebVitals(console.log))
21 // or send to an analytics endpoint. Learn more: https://bit.ly/CRA-vitals
22 reportWebVitals();
23

```

Run 'npm audit' for details.

labuser@ubuntu2204:~/Documents/my-react-app/client\$ **npm start**

> client@0.1.0 start  
> react-scripts start



By following these steps, you have successfully implemented basic routing in your MERN application using React Router, enabling smooth navigation and rendering between different pages or components.