Manipulating data from a JSON feed to display it


```
{
   "Group": [
      {
         "name": "HolderOne",
         "operators": [
            {
              "username": "ken",
              "status": 3
            },
            .....etc.....
```

The JSON feed I am attempting to manipulate has to format above.

I wish to be able to display username and status.

```
$json = file_get_contents("urlhere");
$obj=json_decode($json);
echo $obj->username;
echo $obj->status;
```

This obviously doesn't work as they are nested(?) within the feed...I have tried:

```
$obj->Group[0]->name->operators->username
```

and

```
$obj->Group[0]->name->username
```

to no avail (as well as json_decode with ,true and ['name'], etc).

Am I being particularly dim?

when I do a var dump, the data is being collected from the feed okay.

php   json   json-decode

$obj->Group[0]->name->operators[0]->username ? Looks like operators is an array of objects too... – kalpa Oct 22 '12 at 19:21

Have you also tried to `print_r($obj)` or `var_dump($obj)` ? That also helps a lot... – Havelock Oct 22 ' 19:22

Trying using $obj->Group[0]->name->operators[0]->username – Prashant Singh Oct 22 '12 at 19:22

For a visualized JSON and traversal tips see array.i-o – mario Oct 22 '12 at 19:32

1 Answer

The best way to figure this out is to iteratively do `print_r` 's:

```
print_r($obj)
//prints what you see above
print_r($obj['Group']
//prints the Group Object
print_r($obj['Group'][0])
//prints first element in Group Object
print_r($obj['Group'][0]['operators'])
//etc.....
```

That's how I find out how to access these *deep* elements if I get a little stuck. Though it appears to me you want:

```
$obj->Group[0]->operators[0]->username
```

edited Oct 22 '12 at 19:35   answered Oct 22 '12 at

Cheers.....If I wanted to grab the username value and interrogate it against a variable value (e.g. if KEN = K then...else...), would this be PHP or JSON? i.e. would print_r be the way? BTW - really appreciate the help thank-you! :0) – webservicesco Oct 23 '12 at 14:44

`print_r` is really **never** useful to for your application in prodution, it's really just for development so you c what's in various variables. JSON is just a format to store data, PHP is a language that you write application so PHP is your answer. – Landon Oct 24 '12 at 16:24

Thanks Landon - apart from `print_r` data doesn't outpuyt - a vardump works, but a PHP `echo` doesn't.. additionally complicate things I wish to say if a particular user name is X, display the status – webservicesc 25 '12 at 15:33

Aha got it working (Thanks landon) - the problem I have now is with foreach so I can say for each array, if username is x display the status. – webservicesco Oct 26 '12 at 17:48

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