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cs290 Activity: Practice!

This week's activity is to practice creating sessions, update the data and successfully end the session. We are also asked to make HTTP requests handle the data that's returned and are able to process the data inputted in the forms. Another task is handling nested asynchronous requests and process errors when they pop up. Based on these requests I took the advice of the activity and decided to create a project where I ask the user's name and the city in which they are located. The user will make a to do list which has a direct relationship with the weather. The users selected city is used to make a call to Open Weather Map to receive the current weather. Based on the weather data returned decide whether or not the added to do item was feasible to do based on the current weather.

Getting started I used a combination of previous assignments and lecture material to be used as a base to set up the program. This was a little more difficult then I anticipated. I was having trouble nesting my http request inside of the to-do list for some reason I wasn't able to get the user selected city to be passed into the open weather site. I was using console log to track the data but it wasn't being passed into the JavaScript file from the handlebar file. I was using that info to set up the http request so I could get the users city to return the weather. When I had the response then I could set an if statement to compare the weather to the to do item to determine if the activity was even possible. An example would be if the to do item was mow the grass but if the weather was rain then the to do item wouldn't be added to the list because nobody wants to mow in the rain.

Another issue I was running into was in my 'POST' request, I was having an issue with deleting the to do item after it was completed. When logging the data in console I noticed the 1st id was undefined, so I retraced my code and found I fat finger typed and added ',', instead of '.' in req.session.curId. I do this stuff all the time and JavaScript is not as forgiving as c++ when these errors happen this drive me absolutely insane. After fixing that it still wasn't logging correctly. Again, the solution was simple I didn't add the dot notation to the code I was missing a. session on one of the lines and this fixed it.

In conclusion I am really enjoying this class I put in a lot of extra work through freecodecamp.com. I learn better watching and doing then I do reading. Since the hardest part of the course is the last few weeks with the server stuff, I've been practicing a lot and messing around with codes like the activity above. One thing I think could be better organized is in week 1 we set up node.js then move on to html/CSS then come back to it later just seem strange maybe just start in html and move week 1 till right before server material. Another thing that could help a little is more information about the forever command I know on piazza a few of us have an issue with it mainly trying to stop it. I've tried researching it and could never get it to stop I've posted on piazza and never got an answer I ended up just creating a new port. All in all, this has been quite enjoyable and have found the information quite useful. I now have a better understanding of the web and find myself analyzing sites.