if we want to deal with a form being posted or with JSON data being posted,

we'll need to be able to parse the body of the HTTP request and that's not something that Express is doing just out of the box.

That means we'll need to go back to our middleware. We need something between the request and the response. Something that will look at the request, give us access to that information, parse that content of that HTTP request for us so we can work with it.

We could do it ourselves, but there's already stuff available.

So we'll look at **body parser**.

There are actually more than just one of these body parsing middlewares, but the idea is that it will parse the body.

So we will install it via npm – npm install bady-parser –save

<https://www.npmjs.com/package/body-parser>

This module provides the following parsers:

* [JSON body parser](https://www.npmjs.com/package/body-parser#bodyparserjsonoptions)
* [Raw body parser](https://www.npmjs.com/package/body-parser#bodyparserrawoptions)
* [Text body parser](https://www.npmjs.com/package/body-parser#bodyparsertextoptions)
* [URL-encoded form body parser](https://www.npmjs.com/package/body-parser#bodyparserurlencodedoptions)

**Express route-specific**

This example demonstrates adding body parsers specifically to the routes that need them. In general, this is the most recommended way to use body-parser with Express.

var express **=** require('express')

var bodyParser **=** require('body-parser')

var app **=** express()

*// create application/json parser*

var jsonParser **=** bodyParser.json()

*// create application/x-www-form-urlencoded parser*

var urlencodedParser **=** bodyParser.urlencoded({ extended**:** false })

*// POST /login gets urlencoded bodies*

app.post('/login', urlencodedParser, function (req, res) {

**if** (**!**req.body) **return** res.sendStatus(400)

  res.send('welcome, ' **+** req.body.username)

})

*// POST /api/users gets JSON bodies*

app.post('/api/users', jsonParser, function (req, res) {

**if** (**!**req.body) **return** res.sendStatus(400)

*// create user in req.body*

})