Jaspreet Singh

IST363-M001

Professor Ferger

04/04/2025

Project 2

1. URL: https://jsingh31-lab.github.io/IST363/project2/MealFinder.html

2. A brief written summary answering the following:
    a. What APIs did you use, and what data did they provide?
        i. The first API I used for my webpage was called TheMealDB:
            1. This API helped provide random meal data based on the specific cuisine that a user selected. Such information included in the API was the meal's name, image, ingredients with measurements, and instructions for users to fully cook the meals.
        ii. The second API I used for my webpage was called TheCockTailDB:
            1. This API helped provide randomly selected drink data such as the drinks name, image, ingredients and measurements, and any preparation instructions as well.
        iii. Overall, both APIs were used in a way to provide the user to have a fun and experimentative experience where they choose a cuisine they are interested in and then are given a meal and drink to prep for their enjoyment.
    b. Describe how you handled promises and async operations.
        i. I was able to handle these by using the fetch() with async/wait so I can handle multiple operations at one time. For instance. When the user selects a cuisine, they can click the button "Find Meal & Drink" which then calls two separate functions in which one gives a random meal based on the user's selected cuisine and the other gives a random drink from the other API.
    c. How did you structure the data on your page?
        i. This page is divided into sections which are labeled:
            1. First is a dropdown menu for the user to select a cuisine option they are interested in.
            2. Once completed right under are two buttons:

a. First – is a “Find Meal & Drink” button which provides the user with a meal and drink after selecting a cuisine.
b. Second – is a clear results button which allows user to reset the webpage results without reloading and explore different cuisines.

3. Then after the buttons are the two main content/display areas:
    a. First – the meal based on the selected cuisine
        i. Provides info on meal
            1. Title, image, ingredient/measurement list, and instructions to prep.
    b. Second – the drink to have with the meal
        i. Provides info on drink.
            1. Title, image, ingredient/measurement list, and instructions to prep.

ii. The data from the APIs are inputted into the main sections by using element IDs in JavaScript.

d. What challenges did you encounter, and how did you solve them?
    i. One of the biggest challenges I faced early on was trying to find API’s that’d allow me to have access. This is because initially my idea was to make an NBA page to display teams and player stats for users to see the NBA teams performances during this 2024-2025 season. But I ran into issues with finding a correct API so after a while I decided to toss the idea since most of the APIs, I found weren’t free or kept getting a 403 error as well as needed to have a live server to run properly which was too complicated. So due to this I moved onto this idea about food and drinks and was successful.
    ii. Another challenge I faced was trying to understand how the API for the meal’s information is formatted. I noticed that instead of using an array of items, it numbers each ingredient and measurement separately, so I had to create a for loop from the numbers 1-20 to help build the ingredients and measurements lists properly without displaying any information that is null.
    iii. One more thing was that I tried to figure out how I could style the instructions to be a little more organized into bullet points but was not able to figure it out after research, so I left it in paragraph form on the website.