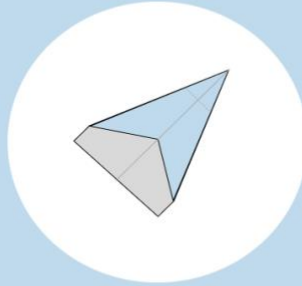


Unfolded Origami



Case Study

The Overview

Over 10 weeks, I developed an origami website using my new understanding of back-end languages (PHP and MySQL) and previously learned front-end (HTML, CSS, and JavaScript). Through the process, I designed wireframe and coded different levels of functioning elements into my final product.

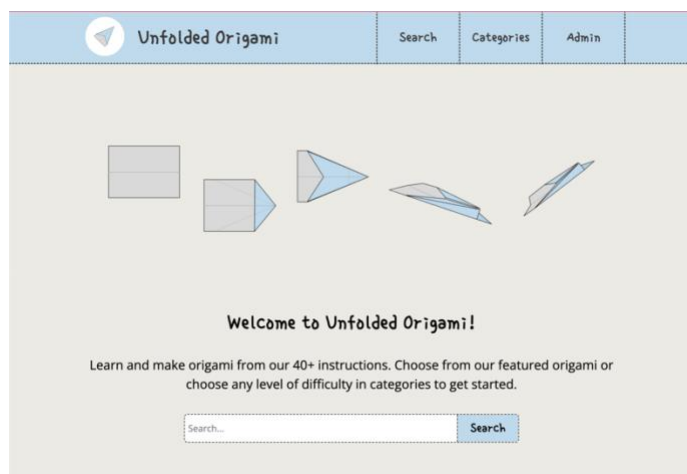
Context and Challenge

Background

Over 10 weeks, I learned to develop a site using PHP/MySQL for a product that would require the database function. I created Unfolded Origami, as a result, which is an origami instruction site that provides guides for any level.

The Problem

In this project, I had to learn a new coding language and apply this knowledge through a website I would build independently over a short timeline. Previously taking classes learning front-end, this project existed to understand the back-end development and its importance and function within building a digital web product.



Goals

My main goal for this project was to gain a general understanding PHP and MySQL by creating a functional product with features that would collect data and be able to view, edit, delete, filter, etc.

Process and Insights



Figma wireframes of the layout of each page

When creating the visual aesthetic of the site, I wanted to integrated designs that played around with different elements of origami like paper and folding. I decided to incorporate the actual origami instruction style using dashed lines which typically represents where to fold. The websites aim is brought in people of all levels to do origami as a relaxing pastime, so I matched the tone with pastel colors.

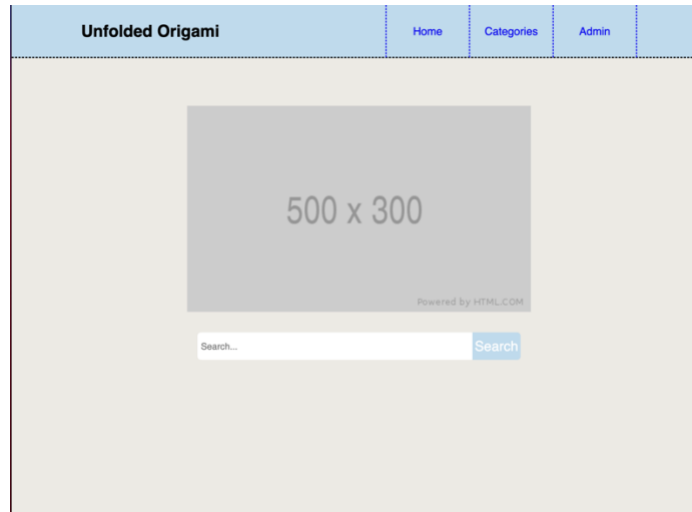
Moving into the actual coding, I started building out designs on front-end of the home page and categories page using HTML and CSS which I was more knowledgeable about. Once I was able to get a clear path for my design I began moving into PHP where I took the HTML pages and learned to turn it into a component which would be used across the site.

To begin, I used Figma to come up with different iterations of the layout and style of the site.

I wanted to keep a simple layout that would show different instructions on the homepage. From looking at competitor sites, the common theme was having a grid system to display everything. I also started considering how a user would navigate through the site.



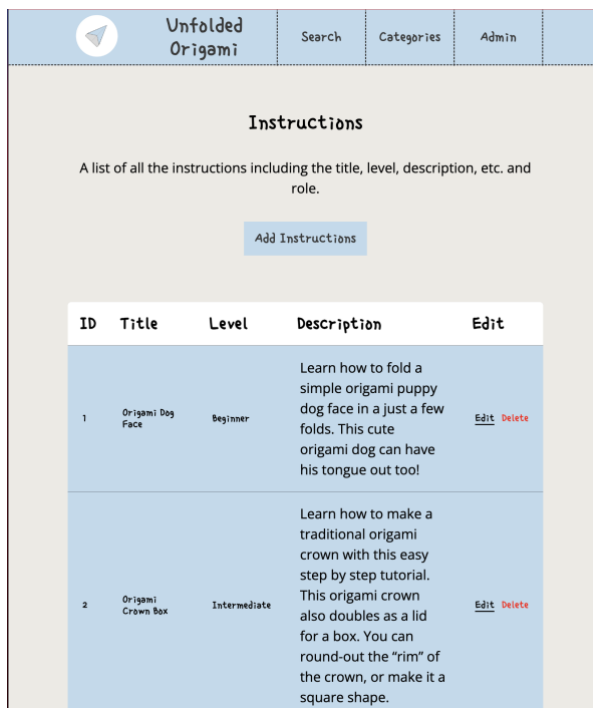
Final design moving into the development stage



HTML/CSS rough website

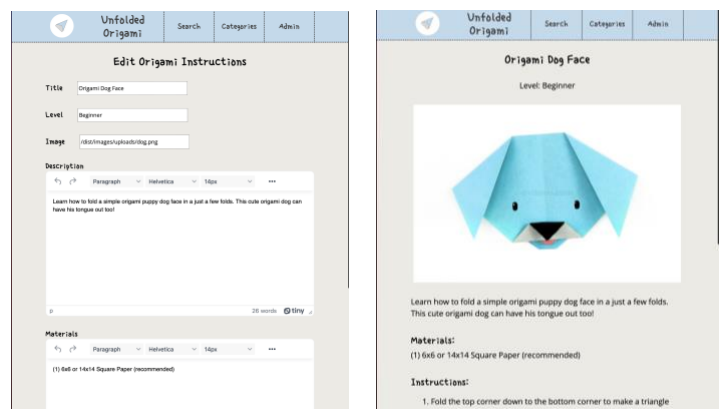
I continued into building my functions to create, delete, and edit the origami instructions. I connected a local database to organize the instructions on the site. It took a couple of trials to get it to work because I overlooked small coding errors that would not be obvious. I also received the help of my peers who helped me realized the problems and were a resource for my understanding PHP.

Once functioning, I added the origami instruction content and continued building the front-end design.



The Solution

In the final product, I had all my instructions in the database that could be added or edited in the admin page. I also displayed the instructions not only in the homepage but the categories and search results page which filtered different content based on how a user would interact with the different elements.



The Results

As a result, I was successful in making sure everything was functioning and working as it should. Due to time constraints however, I was only able to include one image for each origami instruction. Given the origami site is highly visual, if I had more time in the future I would try and learn how to upload multiple photos to display for each instruction.

