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PUI Assignment 8

Link to Website

https://molschaef.github.io/index.html

Part 1

The purpose of my website is to act as a quick resource to reference for various feeling words that are recommended when teaching kids how to identify and express their emotions. The information conveyed includes feeling words that are important to teach kids, such as brave, as well as examples of ways to teach those emotions. The words were chosen from a list of feeling words that The Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning at Vanderbilt University recommends children should be able to express. Additionally, a page is dedicated to showing synonyms for these words to allow caregivers flexibility in the words they teach. This site is interesting and engaging because it uses subtle animation, fun scrolling interactions, and a colorful coffee theme to convey the content in a light-hearted manner. Teaching children valuable emotions is not an easy task, so I wanted to give the user a break from the typical text-heavy child development resources. The target audience is young parents and caregivers.

Part 2

- The first interaction type is an animation when hovering. To reproduce this, go to the “Espresso Yourself” page, and hover over the buttons that say “Explore Emotions” and “Feelings Word Generator” to see the coffee beans jiggle.
- The second is a standard web page navigation bar. To reproduce this, hover over any of the items in the navigation at the top of the page. Additionally, if you resize the window to be smaller, the navigation bar will become an interactive hamburger menu.
- The third interaction is a card flip animation. To reproduce this, go to the “Emotions” page. Scroll down to the grid of emotions and mugs, and hover over any of the boxes.
- The fourth interaction type that I implemented is parallax scrolling. To reproduce an interesting use case, go to the “Emotions” page. Scroll down past the emotions grid and you can see the mugs transform as you scroll down.
- Another interaction type I implemented is a dropdown form that will display different content based on the selection, using a Web API. To recreate this, go to the “Feelings Word Generator” page and select any word from the dropdown menu (Confused has some great synonyms).

Part 3

- Web API: Merriam-Webster Intermediate Thesaurus API

    - I chose it because it provides synonyms specifically for grade school reading levels so words are more approachable for parents teaching kids. Additionally, it allows me to find words based on their parts of speech so I can filter out the nouns and verbs, which may not necessarily be considered words to describe feelings.
    - I used this API to populate the “Feelings Word Generator” page. Based on what word the user selects, I display the adjective synonyms for that word. This gives caregivers additional teaching content outside of the common words used for feelings, such as happy and sad.
    - This adds a layer of credibility since the words come from Merriam-Webster. If I were to manually populate the words, the user may not trust the quality of the content as much.
- Card flip animation (referenced from https://www.w3schools.com/howto/howto_css_flip_card.asp)
    - I chose to use the card flip animation because it was an easy way to get a lot of content into a single screen. Also, it created a fun interaction to make the discussion of emotions more light-hearted.
    - I used it on the “Emotions” page to display the names of emotions and an example of how to reference that emotion when teaching a child.
    - This adds an interesting interaction to content that is typically found buried in text, which allows users to find this information more quickly.
- jQuery
    - I chose to use jQuery because it simplifies my code. I was able to manipulate the DOM by using less code.
    - I used jQuery to manipulate the DOM. One example in which I used jQuery is for the “Feelings Word Generator” page to populate the dropdown menu with the emotion words I had selected.
    - jQuery does not add anything visible to the user, however, it makes the code shorter and easier to understand if I were to work with another developer on this project.
- Bootstrap
    - I chose to use Bootstrap because it allows me to create a responsive design.
    - I used Bootstrap to make the website responsive depending on the screen size. I used it to create a navigation bar that collapses into a hamburger menu. I also used it to maintain all the content on the page at a smaller screen size without having to scroll horizontally.
    - Bootstrap adds responsiveness to my website so that people can view the site on their computers and on their phones.
- Parallax scrolling technique (referenced from https://www.w3schools.com/howto/howto_css_parallax.asp)
    - I chose to use the parallax scrolling technique because it creates an interesting scrolling interaction for the user.

- I used it on each page between content to signify a new section. I also used it on the bottom of the “Emotions” page to make it seem as if each mug transitions into the next.
- This adds a bit of fun to the website. If the user has finished reading through the emotions and wants a break from the text, they can interact with the mugs in a unique way further down the “Emotions” page.

Part 4

I chose to change the color scheme and the way I presented the emotions. I changed the color scheme to less saturated colors to minimize the amount of eye fatigue for the user. Additionally, I was originally going to have the user scroll through all of the emotions. I changed this to the card grid layout so that less effort would be needed to get the same amount of content.

Part 5

One challenge I faced while trying to get the latest version of the Bootstrap CDN to link to my page is that none of the Bootstrap files were being linked. I chose to work around this by using an older version of the Bootstrap CDN that did work. Additionally, I struggled to get the parallax scrolling to work with multiple layers. Finally, it was a challenge to use the Merriam-Webster API and to understand the structure of the data it returned.