

Changes from Part 1

The first change I made was of course adding the PHP and SQL. Since my site was mostly just static content I wasn't sure what to use SQL for. I decided to make a guest book page because I liked the idea of knowing who visited the site. So on my "guest book" page a user inputs their name, character and other information, which is then sent to my database. This used both PHP (to get the data and make the database connection), and SQL (to be sent to the database). The other PHP change I made was pulling out the navbar. Every time I added a new page to my site, I needed to edit the navbar on each separate page and add it to the new html page. This made for a lot of copying and pasting. So once I learned that I could pull my navbar out into a separate PHP page it was a lot easier to make changes and add pages. However, by then most of my page changes were done, so I wish I would've known about being able to pull it out into a separate page at the beginning. Regardless knowing this now will help me on any future projects I do. I had also never interacted with a database before so that is also a good skill in general to add to my tool belt.

The other thing I focused on in the second part of my project was my design. When I first built the site I was far more focused on content, because that was the major aspect of my site. So at the end of part one my site sort of looked like it was from the 90's. I was struggling because I really wanted to do my site without bootstrap, but with that I bypassed some of the easiness bootstrap provides. Two major things that helped me fix my site was first the website coolers.co. This site randomly chooses five colors that go together, then as you click through the palettes you can pin colors you like until you have a scheme you are happy with. When I first made my site I was just picking colors that I thought might go with the World of Warcraft colors, but it ended up being not great. So coolers.co helped me make the site look a lot neater. The second thing was flexbox. I was having trouble lining up things on my site with just simple CSS that I already knew. Especially some of the information on the index.php page, but with flexbox I

was able to align things horizontally and vertically the way I wanted to. I found css-tricks.com to be a really great resource when trying to augment my CSS knowledge.