

Sibling Selectors

In this lesson, we will study all about sibling selectors.
Let's begin!

WE'LL COVER THE FOLLOWING



- Selecting HTML tags based on surrounding siblings
 - Usage of adjacent sibling selector
 - Usage of general sibling selector
- [Listing 9-10](#): Sibling selectors in action



CSS: Sibling Selectors



Selecting HTML tags based on surrounding siblings

Often you need to select HTML tags that are based on their surrounding siblings. To carry out this task, CSS3 offers you two sibling selectors:

1. the **adjacent** sibling selectors
2. the **general** sibling selectors

The **adjacent sibling selector** selects all elements that are the adjacent siblings of a specified element. The **general sibling selector** matches all elements of a *specific type* that are siblings of a given element.

Usage of adjacent sibling selector

You can use the plus sign (`+`) for the adjacent sibling selector. So, `h1 + p` (you can omit spaces and write this expression as `h1+p`) means the `<p>` sibling of `<h1>` tag that is adjacent with `<h1>` .

Usage of general sibling selector

The general sibling is marked with the tilde (`~`) character. So, `h1 ~ p` (or written as `h1~p`) covers all `<p>` tags that are siblings of `<h1>` .

To understand these selectors better, take a look at Listing 9-10 below:

Listing 9-10: Sibling selectors in action

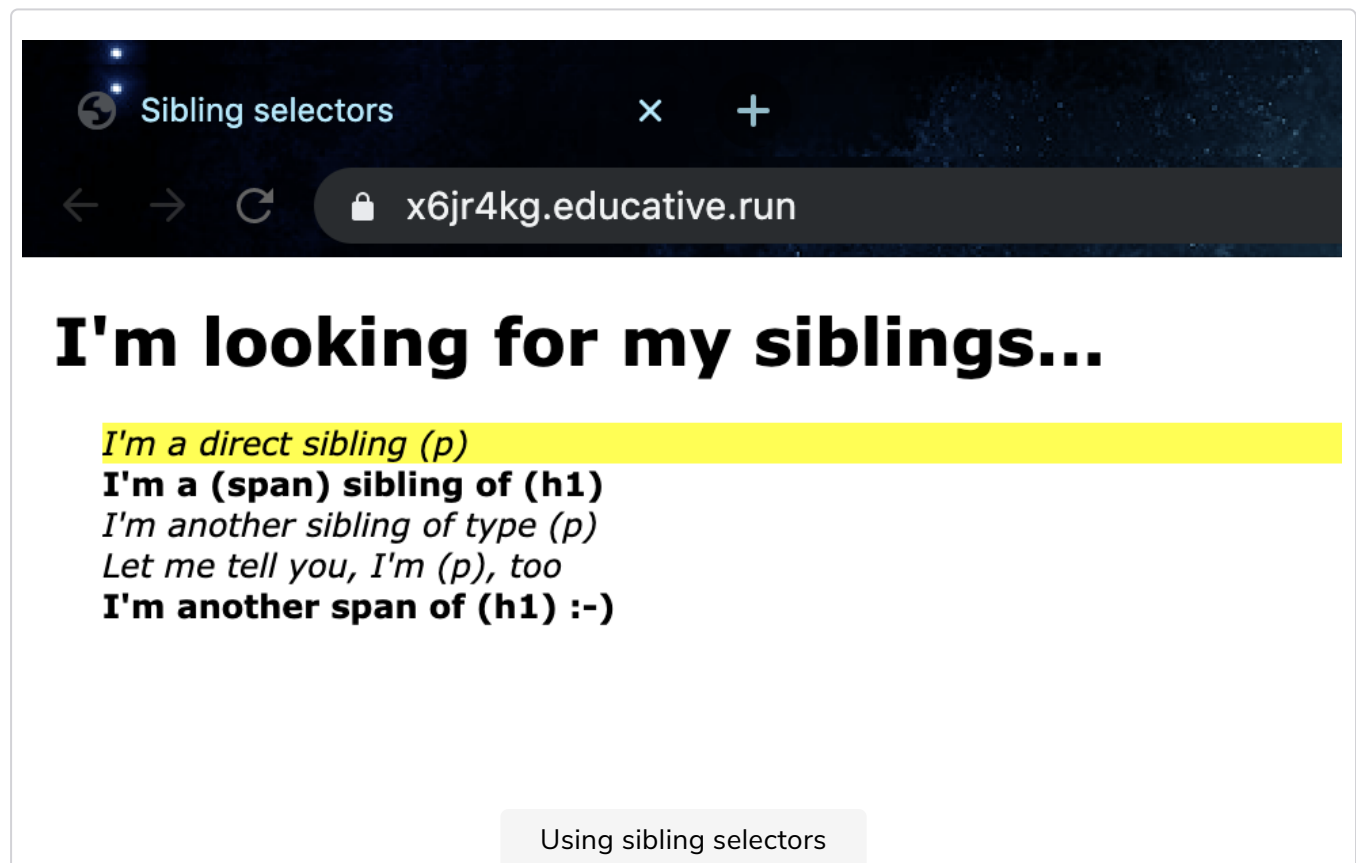
```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
  <title>Sibling selectors</title>
  <style>
    body {
      font-family: Verdana, Helvetica, sans-serif;
      margin-left: 16px;
    }
    p { margin: 0; }
    h1 + p { background-color: yellow; }
    h1 + span { background-color: orangered; }
    h1 ~ p { font-style: italic; }
    h1 ~ span {
      display: block;
      font-weight: bold;
    }
    h1 ~ * { margin-left: 24px; }
  </style>
</head>
<body>
  <h1>I'm looking for my siblings...</h1>
  <p>I'm a direct sibling (p)</p>
  <span>I'm a (span) sibling of (h1)</span>
  <p>I'm another sibling of type (p)</p>
  <p>Let me tell you, I'm (p), too</p>
  <span>I'm another span of (h1) :-)</span>
</body>
</html>
```

The markup uses **five** sibling selectors in its `<style>` section, which specify

the appearance of the `<h1>` tag's siblings. This `<h1>` tag has **two types** of siblings:

1. `<p>` tags
2. `` tags

The page is displayed as shown in the image below:



The `h1 + p` selector is applied to the paragraph directly following `<h1>`, and is marked with a yellow background.

Since `<h1>` does not have an adjacent `` sibling, `h1 + span` is not applied to any tag.

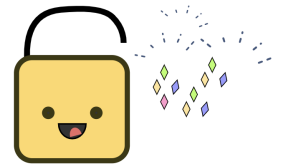
All `<p>` siblings of `<h1>` are italicized, because `h1 ~ p` matches them. The `` siblings of `<h1>` are set to be displayed in bold, according to the `h1 ~ span` rule.

With the `h1 ~ *` (here `*` is the universal selector) all `<h1>` siblings are indented to right with 24 pixels.

Achievement unlocked! 🎉

Congratulations! You've learned to make use of sibling selectors in CSS!

Good job! Give yourself a round of applause!



Now that we have covered all the major selectors, let's move onto some other selectors in CSS that remain, in the *next lesson*.

Stay tuned!