

Getting the Wikipedia URL

Creating dynamic Wikipedia search urls (4 min. read)

As of this course, Wikipedia's API search url is

https://en.wikipedia.org/w/api.php?origin=*&action=opensearch&search=

For an actual search, append a topic. If you need bears, for example, the url looks like this:

https://en.wikipedia.org/w/api.php?origin=*&action=opensearch&search=bears

See? We just added **bears** to the end. Visiting that link returns JSON like this.

```
[
  "bears",
  [
    "Bear",
    "Bears-Packers rivalry",
    "Bearsden",
    "Bears Ears National Monument",
    "Bearskin",
    "Bear spray",
    "Bearsden Academy",
    "Bearskin Airlines",
    "Bearsted",
    "Bearsville Records"
  ],
  [
    "Bears are carnivoran mammals of the family Ursidae. They are classified as caniforms",
    "The Bears-Packers rivalry is a National Football League (NFL) rivalry between the Ch",
    "Bearsden ( ( listen)) is a town in East Dunbartonshire, Scotland, on the northwester",
    "Bears Ears National Monument is a United States national monument located in San Jua",
    "A bearskin is a tall fur cap, usually worn as part of a ceremonial military uniform.",
    "Bear spray is a specific aerosol bear deterrent, whose active ingredients are capsai",
    "Bearsden Academy is a non-denominational, state secondary school in Bearsden, East D",
    "Bearskin Lake Air Service LP, operating as Bearskin Airlines, is a regional airline",
    "Bearsted ( BAIR-sted, traditionally BUR-) is a village and civil parish with railway",
    "Bearsville Records was founded in 1970 by Albert Grossman. Artists included Todd Run",
  ],
  [
    "https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bear",
    "https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bears%E2%80%93Packers_rivalry",
    "https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bearsden",
    "https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bears_Ears_National_Monument",
  ]
]
```

```

    "https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bearskin",
    "https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bear_spray",
    "https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bearsden_Academy",

    "https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bearskin_Airlines",
    "https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bearsted",
    "https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bearsville_Records"
  ]
]

```

We'd like a function that takes a topic and returns the full Wikipedia search URL. As the user types we build the URL based off their input.

Here's a nice start

```

const endpoint = 'https://en.wikipedia.org/w/api.php?origin=&action=opensearch&search=';
const getWikipediaSearchUrlFor = (topic) => endpoint + topic;

```

I'd keep it this way, but this is a Ramda course! We want to get comfortable with using it, so how about this?

```

import { concat } from 'ramda';

const getWikipediaSearchUrlFor = concat(
  'https://en.wikipedia.org/w/api.php?origin=&action=opensearch&search='
);

```

`concat`, true to its name, concatenates strings and arrays. It's curried so providing the URL as one argument returns a function expecting a second string.

Let's quickly test our code. It should be looking like this so far

index.js

getInputValue.js

getUrl.js

```

import 'bootstrap/dist/css/bootstrap.min.css';

const inputElement = document.querySelector('input');

inputElement.addEventListener('keyup', event => {
  console.log('value:', event.target.value);
});

```

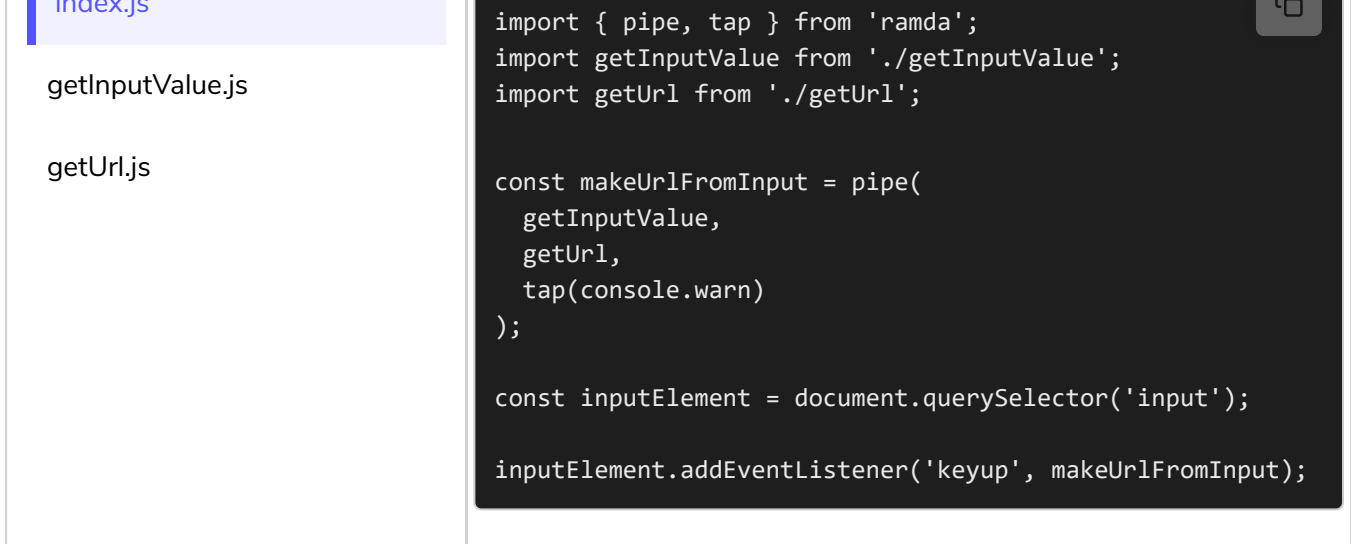
Go ahead and update your `index.js` by importing our two functions, along with Ramda's `pipe` and `tap`.

index.js

```

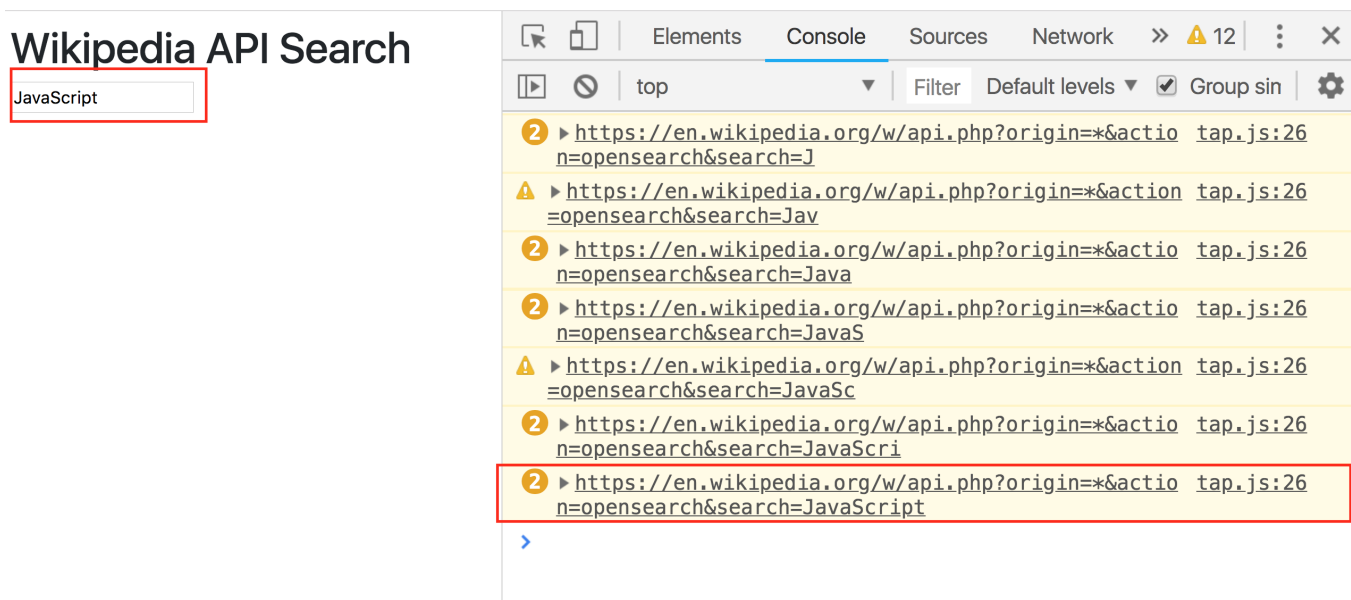
import 'bootstrap/dist/css/bootstrap.min.css';

```



This new code's constructing our request URL from the user's input and logging it via `tap`.

Check it out.



We'll be changing it again soon, but it's nice to see our progress thus far!