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PUI Final assignment - Write up

Part 1:

The purpose of my website is to provide an interactive infographic that will engage users to learn more about penguins and how human activity impacts the endangerment of different penguin species.

In my website I employ different facts and statistics about penguins and the environment, such as climate change, overfishing, and plastic waste. Rather than trying to do an information dump about endangered penguins, I thought this project would be a good opportunity in order to use the coding learned from this course in order to make the website much more engaging and interactive. I tried to make it interesting with the use of graphics that I designed and created with Adobe Illustrator and with the different types of animations when scrolling (fade ins, penguins moving, etc.) Essentially, I wanted the user to have a little more fun with learning about penguins rather than just parsing through a lot of information. The target audience is really for everyone; to just learn a little bit more about penguins and more about the environment.

Part 2:

- Buttons to lead to different pages
- Animations to cue in the different penguin graphics
- Animating fade-ins while the user scrolls in the intro page
- Lots of buttons that lead to modals to click through for more penguin information

Part 3:

The external tools used involved Jquery, Javascript animations, and bootstrap. The use of Jquery was unexpected, however, it was necessary to create the modals for all the information pop-ups. While coding, I thought it would be more appropriate to use the modals as opposed to creating new separate pages for each facet of information. The Javascript animations were tricky to get right; however, they were necessary in making the site more interactive and give the penguin graphics more liveliness. Finally, in order to make my site appropriately resize for different screen sizes, I decided to use Bootstrap, a method we learned in lab. This was very helpful and made the resizing process a lot smoother.

Part 4:

Although formerly prototyped for homework assignment 7 via inVision, the website has definitely changed and evolved when actually going through the coding process. As I realized what was possible with Jquery and javascript libraries, the design/flow of my website also changed. One big decision was utilizing the Modal feature that jquery allows as opposed to creating separate pages. I originally had a separate page for each factors contributing to penguin endangerment. It was very challenging to appropriately implement for the Javascript animations and definitely took a lot of editing and adjusting to get it to work just right.

Part 5:

Similar to the other assignments, it was really challenging to keep track of the multiple HTML pages and the CSS, especially as I added more and more divs. In addition, I was implementing a lot of new types of code that I had not had much experience with (Jquery, animations, bootstrap) and found it challenging to make sure all of these features would work most appropriately. Debugging was also particularly difficult because it is always trickier to figure out why something is not working when you would think it would.