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Code Organization

This week we are beginning to learn about JavaScript. A large part of learning how to use and read JavaScript is by knowing how it is organized. Once you can recognize the symbols and spacing correctly it becomes a lot easier to understand what you are looking at/for.

Any time you want to declare a variable, it is important that it starts with a letter. Whether the name is uppercase, or lowercase also makes a big difference. Variable and function names should be written in camelCase; however, global variable and constants should be in uppercase. It is important that names should be concise and easy to read. While hyphens are used in HTML and CSS, in JavaScript, hyphens are recognized as subtraction, and therefore should be avoided. Each variable should be declared on its own line. Declare with the let and const keywords.

Indentation is heavily used to make the code neater and easier to read. Unlike HTML and CSS, JavaScript does not recognize the TAB key as an indentation. Rather, you should use two spaces to indent, not the tab bar. Indentation rules are important to know because each coding language recognizes differently, and code can be interfered with if not indented properly.

Code commenting is encouraged to help with clarity of the code. If the purpose of the code is not easily understood, it is important to add a comment with its purpose to be sure it does not get deleted. Do not comment if the code is self-explanatory, it comes across as redundant. Single line comments are stated after // and block comments are enclosed in /\* and \*/. Be sure that it is clear what block of code your comment refers to, you should use line breaks to separate if necessary.

Resources:

MDN contributors. (2022, September 28). *Guidelines for styling JavaScript code examples - the MDN web docs project: MDN*. The MDN Web Docs project | MDN. Retrieved October 19, 2022, from <https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/MDN/Writing_guidelines/Writing_style_guide/Code_style_guide/JavaScript#General_JavaScript_guidelines%C2%A0>

JavaScript best practices. (n.d.). Retrieved October 19, 2022, from <https://www.w3schools.com/js/js_best_practices.asp>