U3 Challenge - Reflection Questions

As you work on your challenge reflect on the process and prepare to share your insights with other teachers.This page is for writing down notes. You should capture your responses on the 1 Page Overview Template.
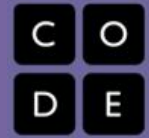
Question & Reflection Notes

What did you enjoy about this lesson?

This lesson was great in exposing students to a new type of creative writing and programming. I really enjoyed seeing how the students made connections and watched as the lights clicked. At first students were confused, but by the end, most of them seemed to get it. It was great seeing students go from no understanding of HTML or websites to grasping the concept of how websites work.

What was difficult about this lesson?

The difficult part about this lesson was helping students to see the value in learning HTML tags. Many of the students have used programs like Dreamweaver or template programs in Wordpress that allow them to create websites without writing the HTML tags.
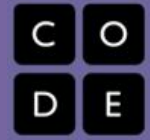
What are you worried about when you use this lesson in class?

The first time I taught this lesson I did not have a firm grasp on HTML and felt like I was only a few steps ahead of the students. I was worried that they would ask questions that I did not know the answer to.

What resources or materials are needed for this lesson?

Students each need a computer and we used Notepad++ to create basic HTML tags. I also w3schools as a resources to help students answer their own HTML questions.
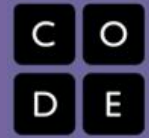
What kinds of website will you have your students create in this lesson? What kind of demo website will you use to demo the necessary concepts?

We used primarily Notepad++ to create the basic elements of a website. We analyzed popular websites and blogs to see the code they used to make their sites.

Explain the main concept of the lesson.

The primary concept of this lesson is to understand the basic building blocks of HTML and how they can be used to created the basic structure of a website. Students will understand that websites are not simply word processing documents and pictures that are uploaded to the internet, but that they are made of code and programs.
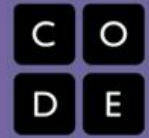
What are some good existing resources for this lesson?

W3schools
Khan Academy
JS Fiddle
Codecademy

Why did you create your chosen resource? OR
How did you find your chosen resource?

Khan Academy is a great tool to help students learn HTML and to practice. I discovered the resources as I was preparing to teach this unit. I personally completed the HTML units and found them to be very useful as I was teaching.

How can your extension resource be used?

Khan Academy is a great tool for continued learning with HTML. The videos are self paced and provide a great mix of lecture and guided practice. This resource can be used to supplement learning at home and for students who have absences. Students could also use the resource in class to help them find solutions to HTML problems. It can serve as a second teacher in the room.

Any other insights about the lesson you wish to share?

The students I taught enjoyed making personal websites. Allowing students to create a blog gave validity to the assignment and created more buy in. A blog could not be created in this lesson alone, but working through the process of creating and publishing a blog was helpful throughout this unit.