Setting up your Chat client

To enable the girls to create a chat feature on their websites, you will have to set up a Chat client.

What you need:
1. A printout of this document (for reference).
2. PHP on your server.
3. Your technical support person (preferably the information systems person that supports your site).
4. The zipped file chat-feature.zip, available on the Build IT wiki, which contains:
   a. chat.txt
   b. chat_utils_inc.php.
   c. page4.php

To do:
1. You must have PHP set up on your server for the chat feature to work.

   Talk to your IT professional to ensure that PHP is properly configured and available on your server. We highly recommend that you talk to your IT person about setting the file permissions (see step 4) if you are unsure of how to set the permissions yourself.
2. Download the file chat-feature.zip, which contains files: *chat.txt* and *chat_utils_inc.php, page4.php.* Extract (unzip) the files.
3. Add these three files to each of the girls' directories. Every girl's directory must contain these three files as well as their html files. [A directory is the same thing as a folder. The directory can be named anything you want – this is the directory that the girls are putting their website content into.]
4. The chat.txt file must have special permissions set: it has to have read-write-execute permissions set for each user. There are a number of ways to do this. From a command line interface, you can run the following command from inside the target directory that contains the chat.txt file: chmod 777 chat.txt. This will set the permissions on the chat.txt file to 777, which indicates that the owner, the group and world (everyone who might interact with the file) has read-write-execute permissions on the file. If you are interacting with your files on the server through an FTP tool, there is usually a way to set permissions through the FTP tool interface. This site contains instructions for editing permissions through a variety of FTP tools: http://www.stadtaus.com/en/tutorials/chmod-ftp-file-permissions.php. If your FTP tool is not listed here, you may either be able to do something similar (try right clicking on the file and see if you can find something in the menu that says permissions) or try doing a Google search for the following: "ftp set file permissions <your FTP tool name here>".

5. Ask girls to open page4.php in whatever html editor you are using, and using the **Chat handout** guide them to customize the file. If they want to change the name of their file, make sure they keep the php extension.

   a. The girls will design and edit the HTML in the page4.php template as part of Unit 3 [See Main Activity in Day 3 of Unit 3]. They can use any html or text editor to modify the file. Make sure that they do not change any of the PHP code, as highlighted in the Chat handout.

   b. You may wish to explain the php coding [See PHP Explanation handout]. PHP pages are special kind of html pages, with additional features. The extension .php tell the server that it has to deal with this page differently.

This is what the whole template page4.php looks like:

Page4.php chat template

If you see this, you've succeeded in installing chat. Now have fun modifying the text to suit your website.

teresa: If you see this, you have a working chat feature!
jasmine: When you start typing in your chat ...
teresa: These words will be replaced ...
jasmine: Have fun!
jasmine: Bye.

(Refresh)   (Clear Chat)

Name: teresa|
Color: red

[   ] (Say)

Once all the php work is done, you can have more text or images here.

Chat Handout

To make the chat feature, the only things that are REQUIRED are the parts in RED. Everything else can be customized however you want.

PHP and HTML Code	What you see on the screen	Explanation
`<?php require_once('chat_utils_inc.php'); ?>`		PHP code: do not change!

`<html>`
`<head>`
`<meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=iso-8859-1" />`
`<title>Asynchronous Chat Client</title>`
`</head>`
`<body>`
		This is where the typical HTML set up starts. You can change the title, but the rest of the code should stay the same.

`<H3>Page4.php chat template</h3>` `<p>If you see this, you've succeeded in installing chat. Now have fun modifying the text to suit your website.</p>`	**Page4.php chat template** If you see this, you've succeeded in installing chat. Now have fun modifying the text to suit your website.	Your already know how to make HTML pages. Write anything you want here.

`<form method="post" action="myclient.php">`
`<?php print_chat(5); ?>`
`<p>`
`  <input type="submit" name="refresh" value="Refresh">`
`  <input type="submit" name="clear" value="Clear Chat">`
`</p>`
`</form>`
	teresa: If you see this, you have a working chat feature!
	jasmine: When you start typing in your chat ...
	teresa: These words will be replaced ...
	jasmine: Have fun!
	jasmine: Bye.
	
	(Refresh) (Clear Chat)
		PHP code: do not change!

		You can add html code in between the two forms in red.
`<form method="post" action="myclient.php">` `  <strong>Name:</strong> <input type="text" name="name" <?php print_value('name') ?>> ` `  <strong>Color:</strong> <input type="text" name="color" <?php print_value('color') ?>> ` `  <input type="text" name="text" size="40">` `  <input type="submit" name="say" value="Say">` `</form>`	**Name:** teresa **Color:** red [ ] (Say)	PHP code: do not change!

`Once all the php work is done, you can have more text or images here.<p>`
`</body>`
`</html>`
	Once all the php work is done, you can have more text or images here.	Write anything you want here, using HTML code.

PHP Explanation

`<?php require_once('chat_utils_inc.php'); ?>`	This line grabs all of the code that is in the chat_utils_inc.php and adds it to the beginning of this page. Any functions that are written up in chat_utils_inc.php can now be used inside of myclient.php

`<form method="post" action="myclient.php">`	This line starts the form. The action="myclient.php" means that when you submit the form, it will be processed by this page.
`<?php print_chat(5); ?>`	Calls the print_chat function that is inside of chat_utils_inc.php. The function prints X number of lines of chat, and X is set to 5 in this example. You can set X to anything you want, but it must be at least 1.
`<p>`	Html paragraph
`<input type="submit" name="refresh" value="Refresh">`	Creates the refresh button. You can change the text on the button by changing the value="Refresh" section and changing Refresh to whatever you want.
`<input type="submit" name="clear" value="Clear Chat">`	Creates the clear chat button. You can change the text on the button by changing the value="Clear Chat" section and changing Clear Chat to whatever you want
`</p>`	Closes the html paragraph
`</form>`	Closes the form.

`<form method="post" action="myclient.php">`	This line starts the form. The action="myclient.php" means that when you submit the form, it will be processed by this page.
`<strong>Name:</strong>`	Creates the "Name:" label for the input box.
`<input type="text" name="name" <?php print_value('name') ?>>`	Creates the name input box. The section <?php print_value('name') ?> shows the last name that was used.
` `	Html line break
`<strong>Color:</strong>`	Creates the "Color:" label for the input box.
`<input type="text" name="color" <?php print_value('color') ?>>`	Creates the color input box. The section <?php print_value('color') ?> shows the last color that was used.
` `	Html line break
`<input type="text" name="text" size="40">`	Creates the message input box. The size="40" sets the width of the input box. You can set this size to whatever you want, but if it's too wide it will run off the screen.
`<input type="submit" name="say" value="Say">`	Creates the submit button. You can change the text on the button by changing the value="Say" section and changing Say to whatever you want
`</form>`	This line closes the form.