SpaceAdventure Lesson 11

Description

Prompt the user for the name of a planet to travel to, and print the planet's description.

Welcome to the Solar System! There are 8 planets to explore. What is your name? Jane Nice to meet you, Jane. My name is Eliza, I'm an old friend of Siri. Let's go on an adventure! Shall I randomly choose a planet for you to visit? (Y or N) N Name the planet you would like to visit. Saturn Traveling to Saturn... Arrived at Saturn. This planet has beautiful rings around it.

Learning Outcomes

- Practice defining parameterized methods within a class definition.
- Relate the Swift for loop syntax to similar constructs in other familiar languages.
- Apply subscript syntax to access specific objects within an array.
- Practice logic and control flow with an if statement.
- Discover the Swift for-in loop, and compare them with traditional for loops.

Vocabulary

method call	method implementation	type annotation
for loop	counter variable	array subscripting
bracket	iterate	for-in loop

Materials

· SpaceAdventure Lesson 11 Xcode project

Opening

How can we ask the traveler which planet he or she would like to visit, and then display that planet's description?

Agenda

- Examine the if statement in the implementation of determineDestination within the SpaceAdventure class.
- Replace the TODO and print call with a prompt to capture a planet's name that the user will type, and a call to a private visit: method.

```
} else if decision == "N"{
    let planetName = responseToPrompt("Ok, name the planet you would
        like to visit.")
    visit(planetName)
} else {
```

• Implement a simple version of the visit: method.

```
private func visit(planetName: String) {
    print("Traveling to \(planetName)...")
}
```

- Explain the method definition syntax, emphasizing the parameter name and type annotation.
- Discuss how one might print the description of the Planet in the planetarySystem.planets array whose name matches the value of planetName.
- Discuss the drawbacks of using a long, explicit if statement, such as if planetName == "Mercury".
- Complete an implementation of visit: that uses a traditional for loop.

```
private func visit(planetName: String) {
    print("Traveling to \(planetName)...")
    for var i = 0; i < planetarySystem.planets.count; ++i {
        let planet = planetarySystem.planets[i]
        if planetName == planet.name {
            print("Arrived at \(planet.name). \(planet.description)")
        }
    }
}</pre>
```

- Explain the traditional for loop syntax.
- Discuss the the idiom of array subscripting using a for loop counter variable.
- Run the program (**#R**), enter a name, choose N, type a valid planet name, and observe the results displayed in the console (☆ **#c**).
- Discuss the first two lines of the for loop.

```
for var i = 0; i < planetarySystem.planets.count; ++i {
    let planet = planetarySystem.planets[i]</pre>
```

- Discuss how the loop iterates over each item in the array by using the counter variable to retrieve a Planet object out of the array, assigning the object to a planet constant.
- Replace the traditional for loop with a for-in loop.

```
for planet in planetarySystem.planets {
    if planetName == planet.name {
        print("Arrived at \(planet.name). \(planet.description)")
    }
}
```

- Discuss how the for-in loop manages the iteration, assigning each Planet object to the implicit planet constant during each repetition of the loop.
- Run the program (**#R**), enter a name, choose N, type a planet name, and observe the results displayed in the console (☆ **#c**).

Closing

What happens when the traveler types something else besides a valid planet name?

Modifications and Extensions

• Enhance the visit: method to handle cases where the traveler types an invalid planet name, and add logic to make certain planets unvisitable.

Resources

The Swift Programming Language: About Swift https://developer.apple.com/library/ ios/documentation/Swift/Conceptual/Swift_Programming_Language/

The Swift Programming Language: A Swift Tour https://developer.apple.com/library/ ios/documentation/Swift/Conceptual/Swift_Programming_Language/GuidedTour.html

The Swift Programming Language: The Basics https://developer.apple.com/library/ ios/documentation/Swift/Conceptual/Swift_Programming_Language/TheBasics.html

The Swift Programming Language: Methods https://developer.apple.com/library/ios/ documentation/Swift/Conceptual/Swift_Programming_Language/Methods.html

The Swift Programming Language: Subscripts https://developer.apple.com/library/ ios/documentation/Swift/Conceptual/Swift_Programming_Language/Subscripts.html

The Swift Programming Language: Collection Types https://developer.apple.com/ library/ios/documentation/Swift/Conceptual/Swift_Programming_Language/ CollectionTypes.html

The Swift Programming Language: Control Flow https://developer.apple.com/library/ ios/documentation/Swift/Conceptual/Swift_Programming_Language/ ControlFlow.html