

D202: Multimedia: Introduction to web page creation

Using OpenMind & Mediator

Flash Introduction

A Visual Tour

An Interactive Quiz

Introduction to web page creation

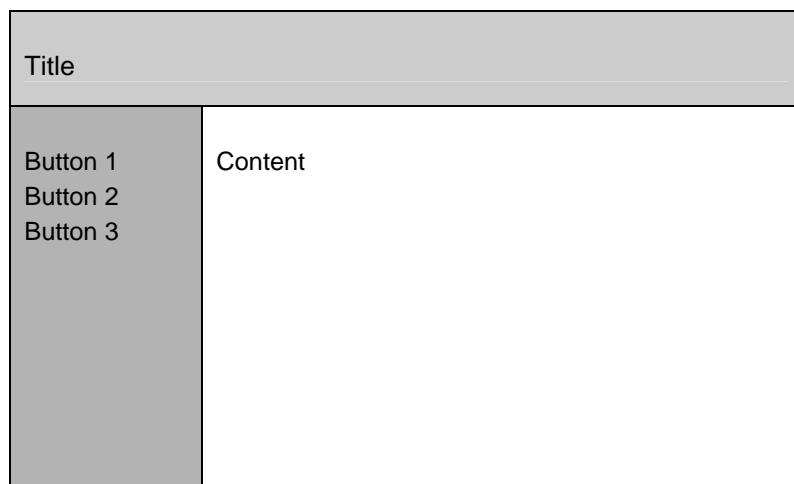
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Step 1: Planning website and page layouts

Start by explaining page layout to the class and possible designs for their websites. Evaluate the page layouts in terms of sizes of boxes relative to their importance, positions of boxes relative to their importance.

Explain that for the purpose of this particular lesson you will be using this layout for the website.

See *tutorial* "Planning your projects with OpenMind"



Step 2: Demonstrating Mediator

During this activity you and your students will create a **master page** for the website. This page will be like a template, it can be applied to as many pages as you like. The beauty of using a master page is:

- It lets you create and place links in one place only
- It lets you correct errors on one page instead of 4, 5, 6, or 100's of pages

- You only have to change your design on one page and all the pages change
- Lets you add elements to one page only that will appear on all pages
- Close down all programs.

First next thing you need to do is create a **New Folder** on the **Desktop**. **Right** mouse click in the middle of the **Desktop** and a menu will appear.

From the menu, select **New** and choose **Folder** (use the left mouse button).

Rename the folder by typing your first name, underscore and then your surname (**e.g. peter_barnes**). This will be your **Work folder**, all the images you wish to use and your Mediator files should be saved to this folder. Mediator 8 has an auto-recovery feature, once your projects has been saved Mediator will continue to save your work for you without you knowing to reduce the chance of you losing your work.

Open **Mediator**.




Click on **File**, then **New**.

- The **New Document** wizard opens.
- Select **HTML** then **Next**
- For Mode select **Full screen with frame**
- Select **Next**
- Select **Custom**, key in **640 x 480**
- Select **Finish**

Mediator opens with a blank document.

Select **File** then **Save As**, go to your **Work folder** on the desktop. Name your Project and select **Save**.


The **Page List** (located on the top left corner of the screen) shows you how many pages you have in your presentation and what they are called. **Right** mouse click on **Page1** rename the page as **Master**.

For the master page layout we need a rectangle , some text , and some buttons .


Select the **Rectangle** tool  and **drag** out a rectangle on your document.

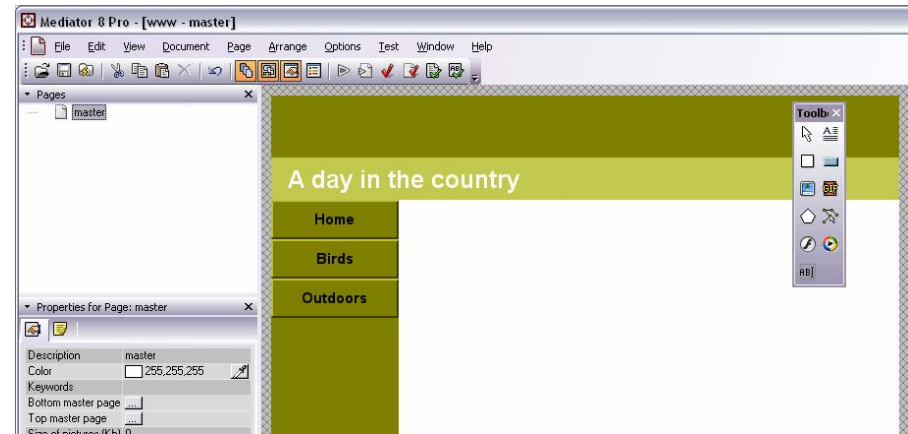
Right mouse click on the rectangle for the Properties box, which allows you to adjust the rectangle however you like (e.g. **width**, **height**, **color**, **distance** from the **top**, **distance** from the **left**).

Continue creating rectangles until you are happy with your layout.

Select the **Text** tool  and **drag** out a frame near the top of your page for the headline.


Enter "A day in the country" then click **OK**.

Select the **Button** tool  then drag out a button on the left hand side of your page. The screen darkens and you can write some text on the button. We need 3 buttons for this project, "**Home**", "**Birds**" & "**Outdoors**".






Now that the master page is created we can go ahead and create all the other pages.

Right mouse click in the **Page List** window and select **New**. Call it "**Page1**" and select **OK**. Repeat this step until you have "**Page1**", "**Page2**" & "**Page3**".


Right mouse click on **Page1** and select **Properties**. The **Properties** dialogue appears. Holding down the **Ctrl** key, select **Page2** and **Page3**. You should have all the pages but the **Master** page selected. Click the **Browse** button  next to '**Bottom master page**' & select the **Master** page from the page list.

Notice if you click on the pages, the **Master** page has been applied to all the pages. Now, any change you make to the **Master** page will change on every page.

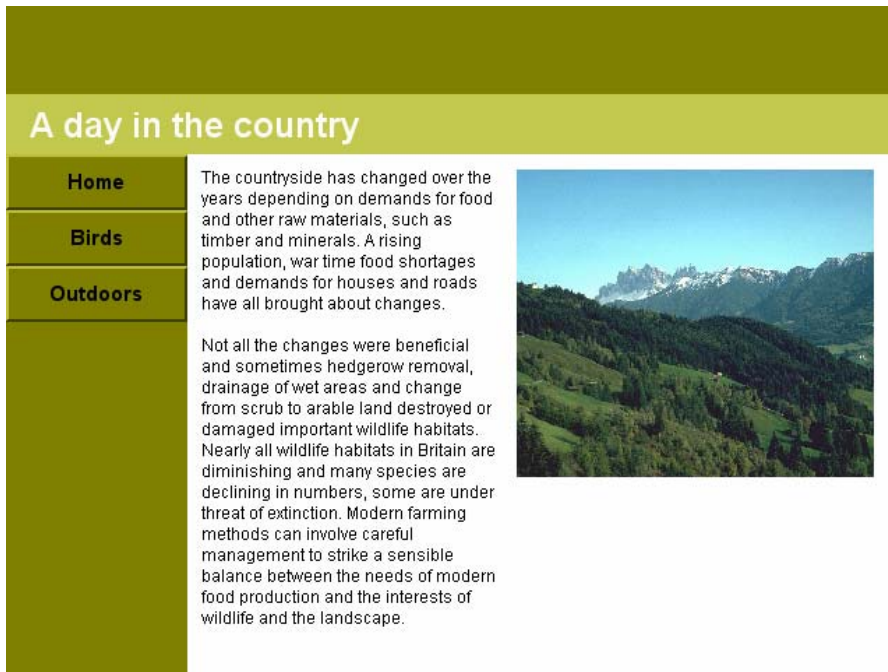
Select Page1. For this page we need some **descriptive** text , and a **picture** .

Select the **descriptive** text tool  and **drag** out a frame on your document. The screen darkens and you can enter text about the page. In the **Project files** you will find a file called "country.txt", to insert this text click the **Open** button in the **text toolbar** and select the file.




Select the **Picture** tool  and drag a frame on the right hand side of the screen. Select picture 1.jpg from the **project** files.

Our first page is complete.





Creating the second page. On this page we will make a little animation that will run over the web page whenever you hit a certain button.

Select **Page2**, place a **descriptive text**  frame on your document. Insert the text birdlife.txt in the frame. Here we are going to edit our text. Select the first line of text

and set it to **Bold, 14pt Verdana**. Select the rest of the text and change it to **10pt Verdana**. Click anywhere outside the text to exit text editing.

Right mouse click the text to open the **Properties** dialog. On the **Text** tab select **“Enable scrollbar”** to add a scrollbar to the text.

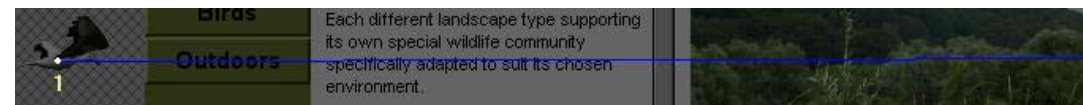
Select the **Picture** tool  and insert picture 2.jpg on the right hand side of the page.

Now we want to animate a bird flying across the screen. Select the **Animated GIF** tool . Click outside the actual page on the left hand side of the screen. Select the **Animated GIF** called bird.gif.

Now we need to create the path for the bird to follow.

Click the **Animation Path** tool .

The screen darkens and you can now create the animation path by clicking the start and end points of the animation.

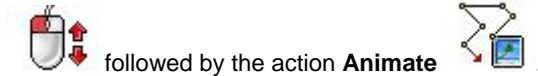


Place the **first** point in the middle of the bird (outside of the actual screen). Place the **second** point outside the page on the right hand side of the screen.

Click in the Animation Path toolbox  to exit animation path editing.

You must now decide how you are going to start the animation. In this example we are going to place a **button** below the picture and label it “Start Flying”. **Right**


mouse click on the button and open it's events dialog. Drag the event **Mouse Click**

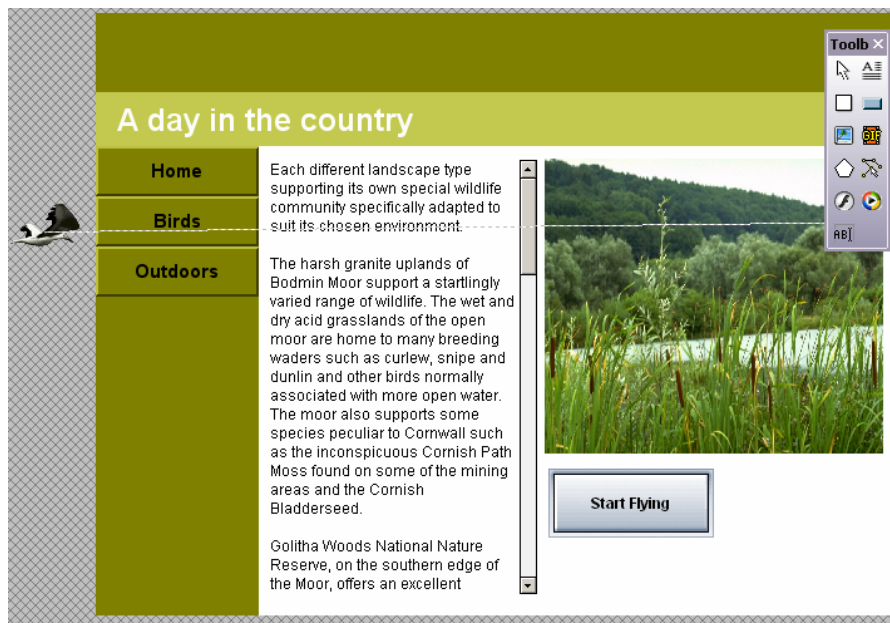


followed by the action **Animate**

The **Animate dialog** opens. In the "Object to animate" select the object "bird". This you are going to animate the gif you inserted. Since you have only created one Animation path, it is auto selected in the animation path field. Set the **Duration** to 3000 milliseconds (**3 seconds**). Click **OK** to leave the dialog.


Save Your Work.

Click  to test the page, press **Esc** to exit.




Select **Page3**, we are going to show you how easy it is to put **video** in your page. To put video into a web page we use what is called **Streaming Video**. Streaming

video is a type of video that starts playing while the video is still downloading, so visitors can view the video instantly.

Click the **Media player** tool  in the toolbox and drag out a frame in the middle of the page. The Open dialog appears, select the video called **country.wmv**.

Save Your Work.


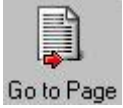
Click  to test the page, press **Esc** to exit.



Step 3: Linking the pages

We need to link up all the pages so that we can **navigate** the website. Select the Master page in the **Page List**.

Right mouse click on the Home button and open it's events dialog. Drag the event

Mouse Click  followed by the action **Go to Page** . Select **Page1** and click OK, click **OK** to close the **Go to Page** dialog.

Repeat the steps to link "Birds" button to **Page2**, link "Wetlands" button to **Page3**.

All there is left to do is make sure the page opens on the Home page. Select the Master page in Page List. Click and **drag** the Master page down to the bottom of the **Page list** window so that it is below Page3.

Step 4: Exporting your files

This is a very simple process as Mediator does most of the work for you.

First make sure you **save** your presentation. Select **File** then **Create Distribution Files** then **Quick**.

Select **HTML** in the dialog that appears, select **OK** in the next dialog. At this point Mediator starts exporting all your pages. When the **Publish dialog** appears Mediator is finished exporting your files, select the **Preview** button to open your finalized website in your browser.