



**CSS (CASCADING STYLE SHEETS)
LAYOUT: INTRODUCTION ON PAGE
BACKGROUNDS**

By Ted Mitchell

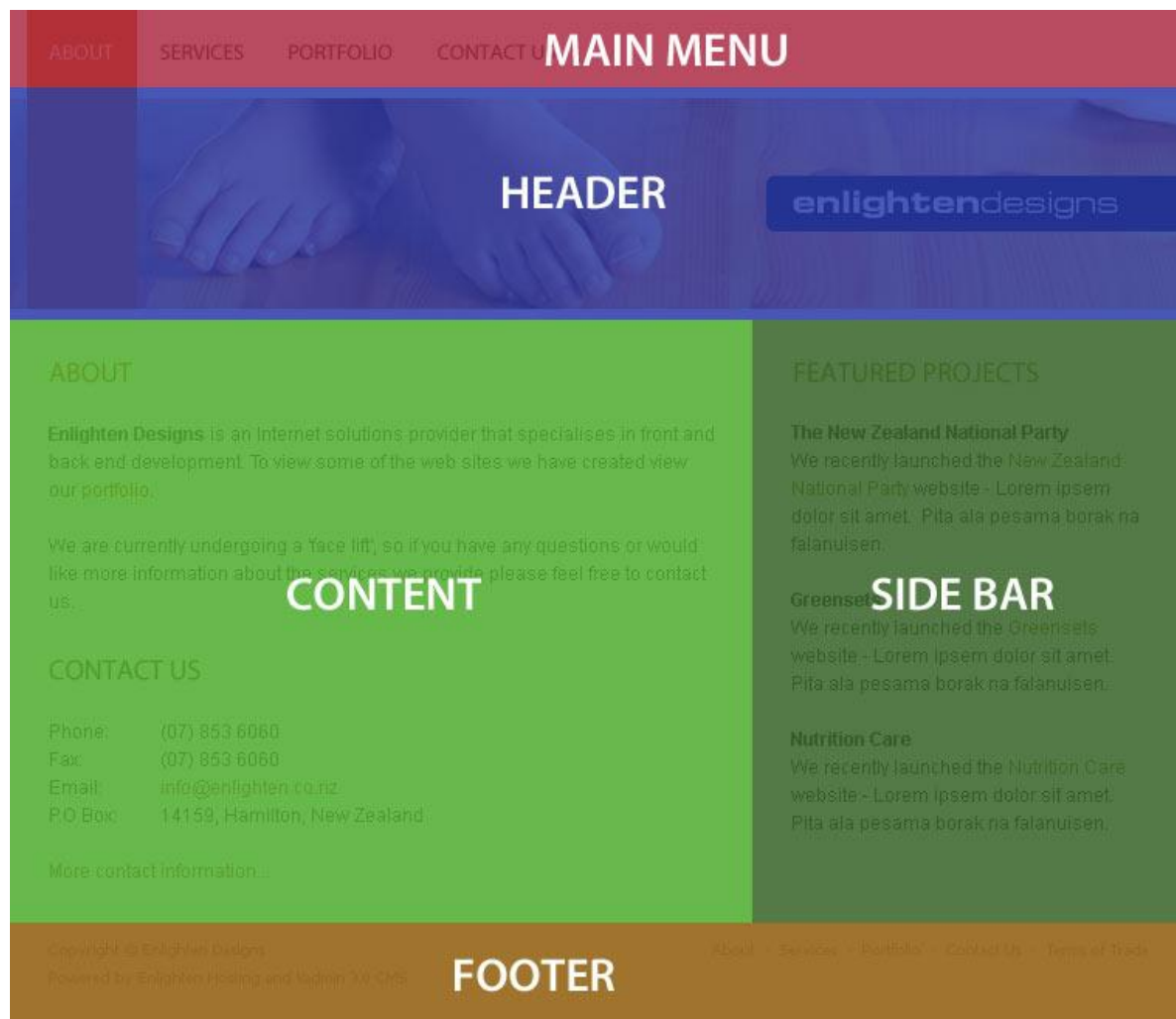
CSS IS USED TO CREATE BOXES ON/IN THE PAGE THAT ARE POSITIONED IN CERTAIN PLACES AND GIVEN STYLES OR CHARACTERISTICS THAT GOVERN HOW TEXT, BACKGROUND, ETC. GOES ON INSIDE THEM. THESE BOXES ARE CALLED “DIVS.” HERE’S A TEMPLATE I’LL USE AS AN EXAMPLE.

Microsoft Expression Web interface showing a science class website template. The page features a blue header with the text "science class" and "Mrs. Peitros". Below the header is a navigation menu with buttons for "Home", "This Week", "Rubrics", "Department", and "Contact". The main content area includes a diagram of an ecosystem with labels such as "energy", "oxygen", "runoff from rain", "dead plants", "nutrients", "fertilizers and pesticides carried by water", "damselfly nymph eaten by fish", "crayfish eaten by fish", and "dead animals and excretion". Below the diagram is the text "Welcome to Science Class" and "The Siberian Tiger Team - 6th Grade". The right sidebar contains a "Class News" section with placeholder text: "Progress Reports will be going home soon! Do all of your homework or you will suffer miserably in my detention!". Below this is a "Units of Study" section with a list of placeholder text: "09.13.09 Vestibulum risus vitae", "09.13.09 Condimentum et molestie", "09.13.09 Facilisis sed vestibulum", "09.13.09 Ipsum primis et sed luctus", "09.13.09 Ultrices posuere nulla", and "09.13.09 Accumsan lorem sodales". The right sidebar also shows a "Toolbox" with HTML tags and form controls, and an "Apply Styles" panel with a list of CSS classes: "#wrapper", "#header", "#logo", "#search", "#search-text", "#search-submit", "#banner", "#menu", "#page", "#content", "#post", and ".post-bgtop".

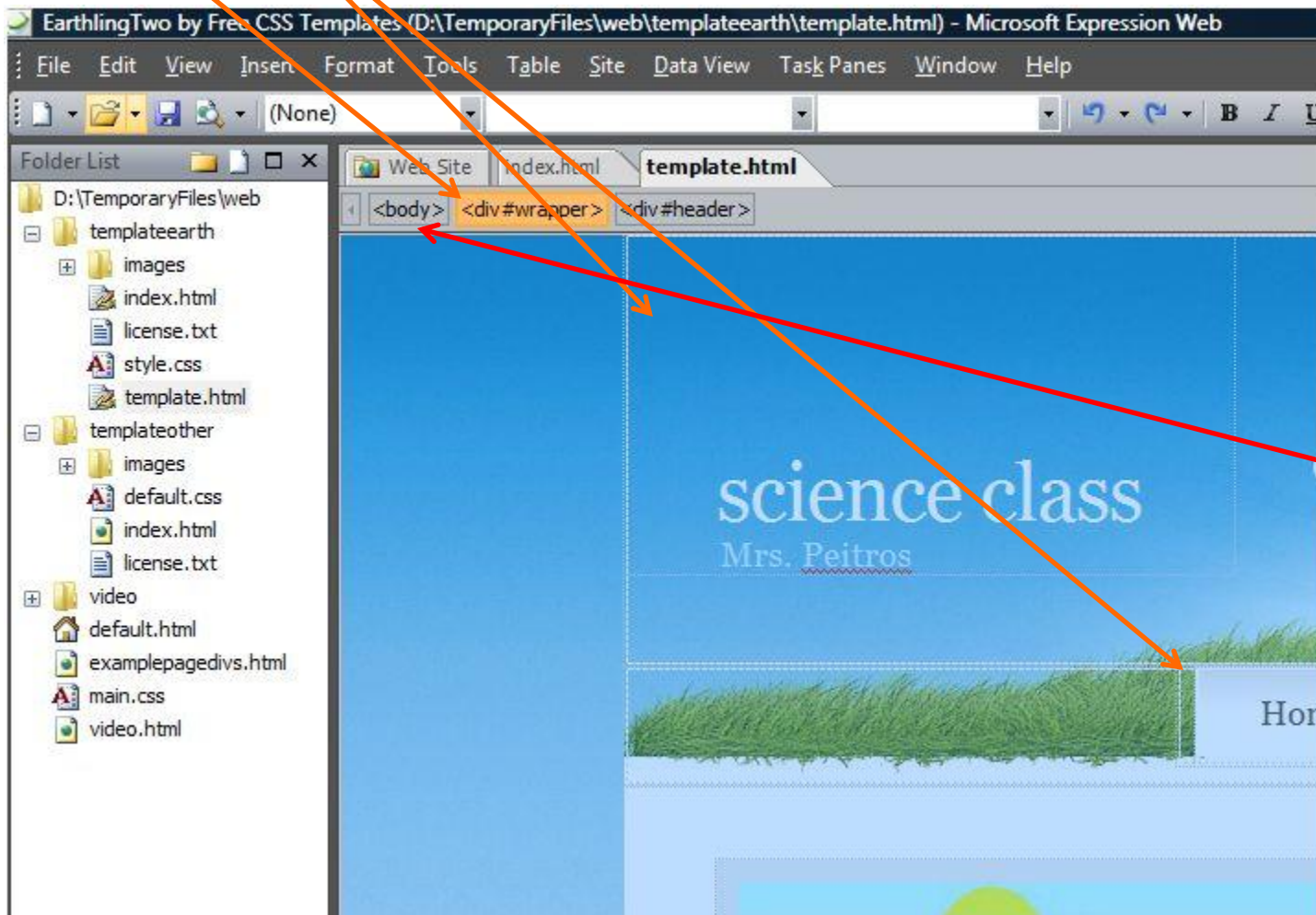


HERE'S AN EXAMPLE OF A COMMON LAYOUT BELOW. EACH COLORED BOX IS A SEPARATE DIV (BOX) THAT ARE ALL WITHIN A CONTAINER DIV THAT IS WITHIN THE BODY (WHOLE PAGE).

These divs can be arranged in many ways. CSS allows you to position them and create styles that affect the font, background, spacing, etc.



THE WHOLE PAGE IS THE “BODY,” BUT HERE THE DIV CALLED “WRAPPER” IS USED TO MAKE THE BACKGROUND OF THE PAGE. ALL OTHER DIVS OR BOXES USED ARE WITHIN THE WRAPPER.

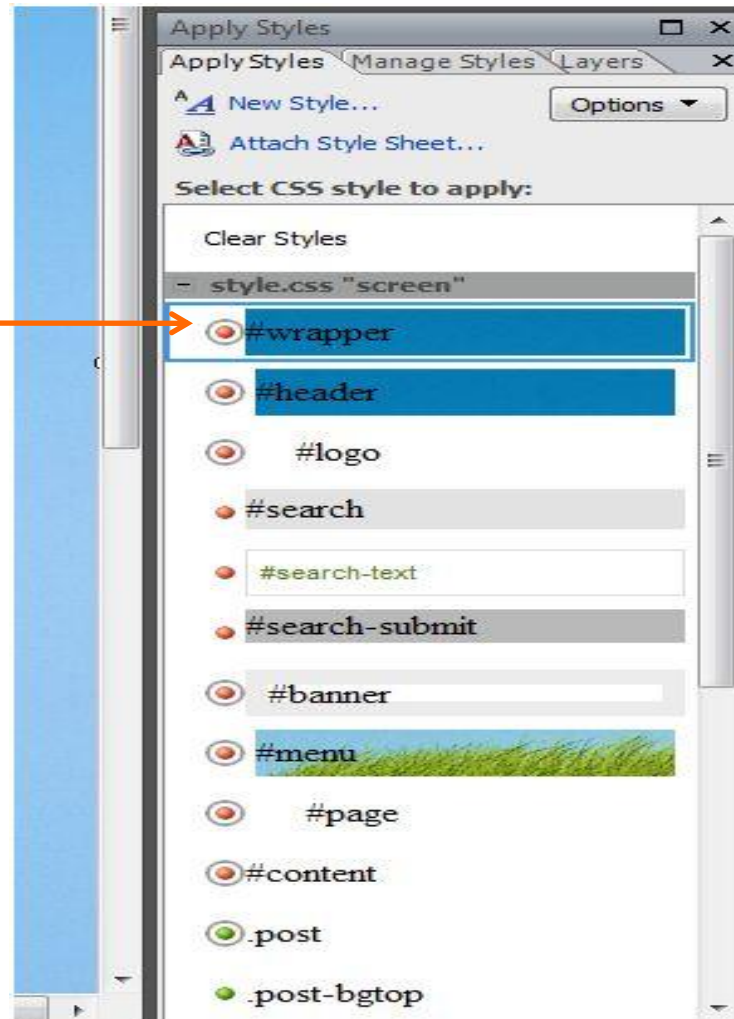


You don't have to use a "wrapper" div. Here it is meant to create an interesting background. You can use the "body" to create the background alone.

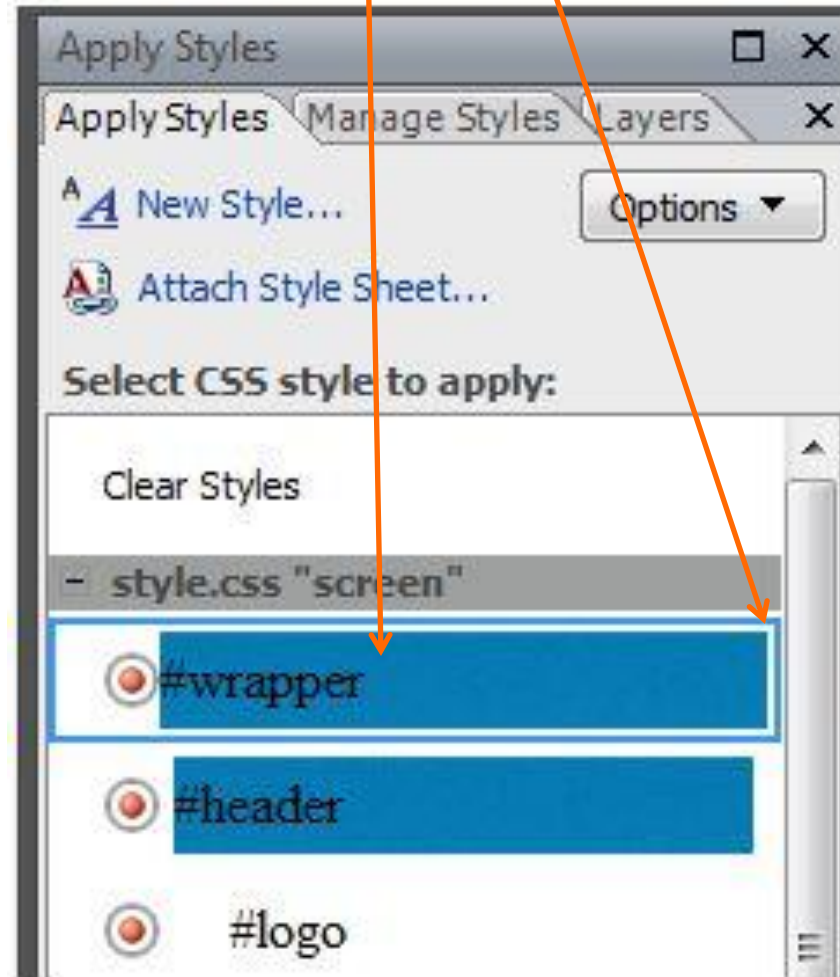
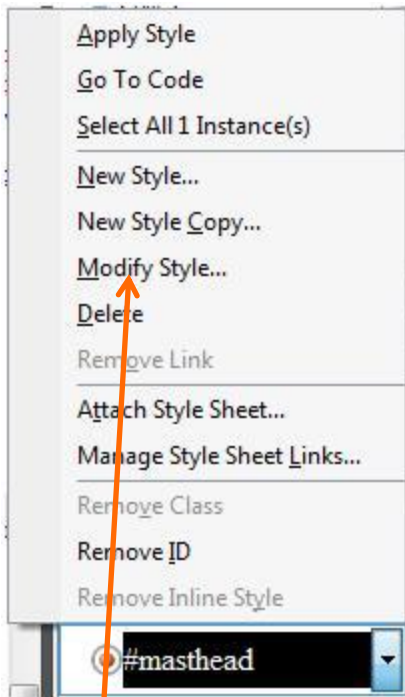


APPLY STYLES TASKPANE (BOTTOM RIGHT) IS USED TO ACCESS THESE STYLES. YOU CAN CHANGE THEM IN “MANAGE STYLES” AS WELL.

Notice that the “#wrapper” div style is highlighted by a blue border indicating that this is what I am working with.



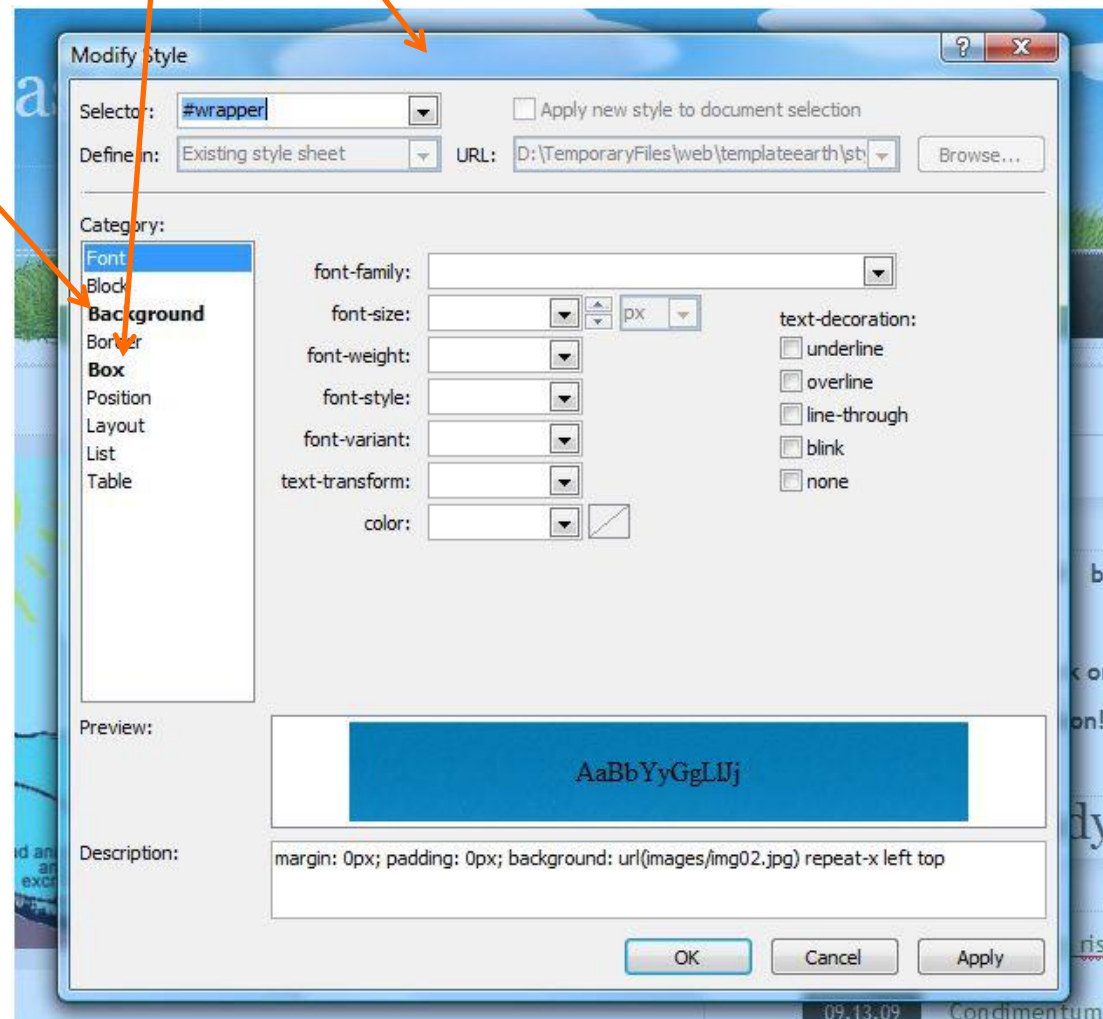
PLACE YOUR MOUSE OVER THE “#WRAPPER” STYLE AND AN ARROW POINTING DOWN ON THE RIGHT SIDE APPEARS. CLICK, THEN SELECT “MODIFY STYLE.”



Example above: Select “Modify Style...”

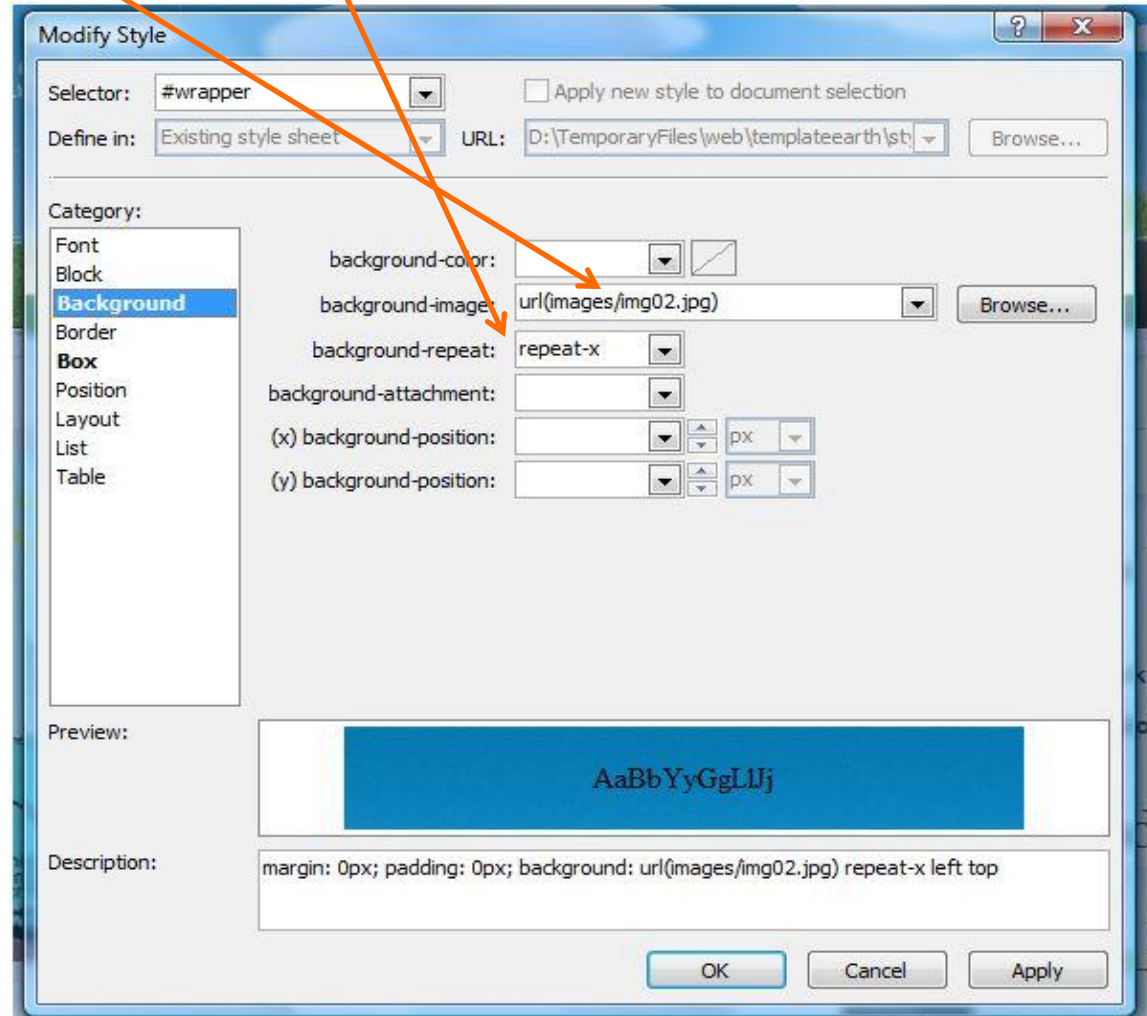


THIS STYLE WINDOW APPEARS. ANYTHING THAT HAS BEEN MODIFIED OR EDITED WILL BE IN BOLD. ONLY THE “BACKGROUND” AND “BOX” CATEGORIES ARE EDITED.

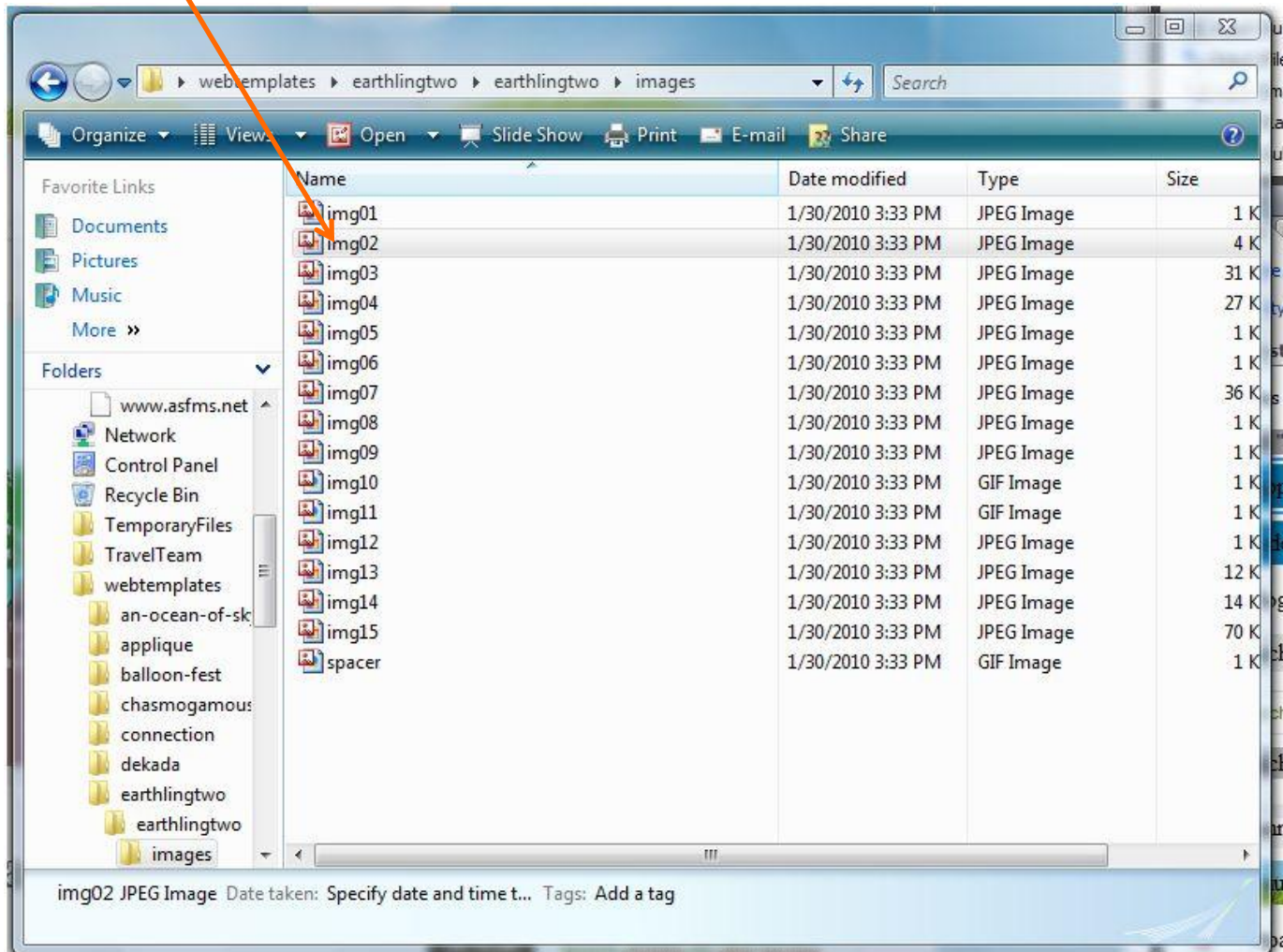


THE “WRAPPER” FILLS THE ENTIRE PAGE. ITS BACKGROUND IS “IMG02” AND THE IMAGE IS ONLY REPEATED HORIZONTALLY ALONG THE X-AXIS. MEANING IT WILL NOT COVER THE BOTTOM OF A PAGE IF YOU SCROLL DOWN.

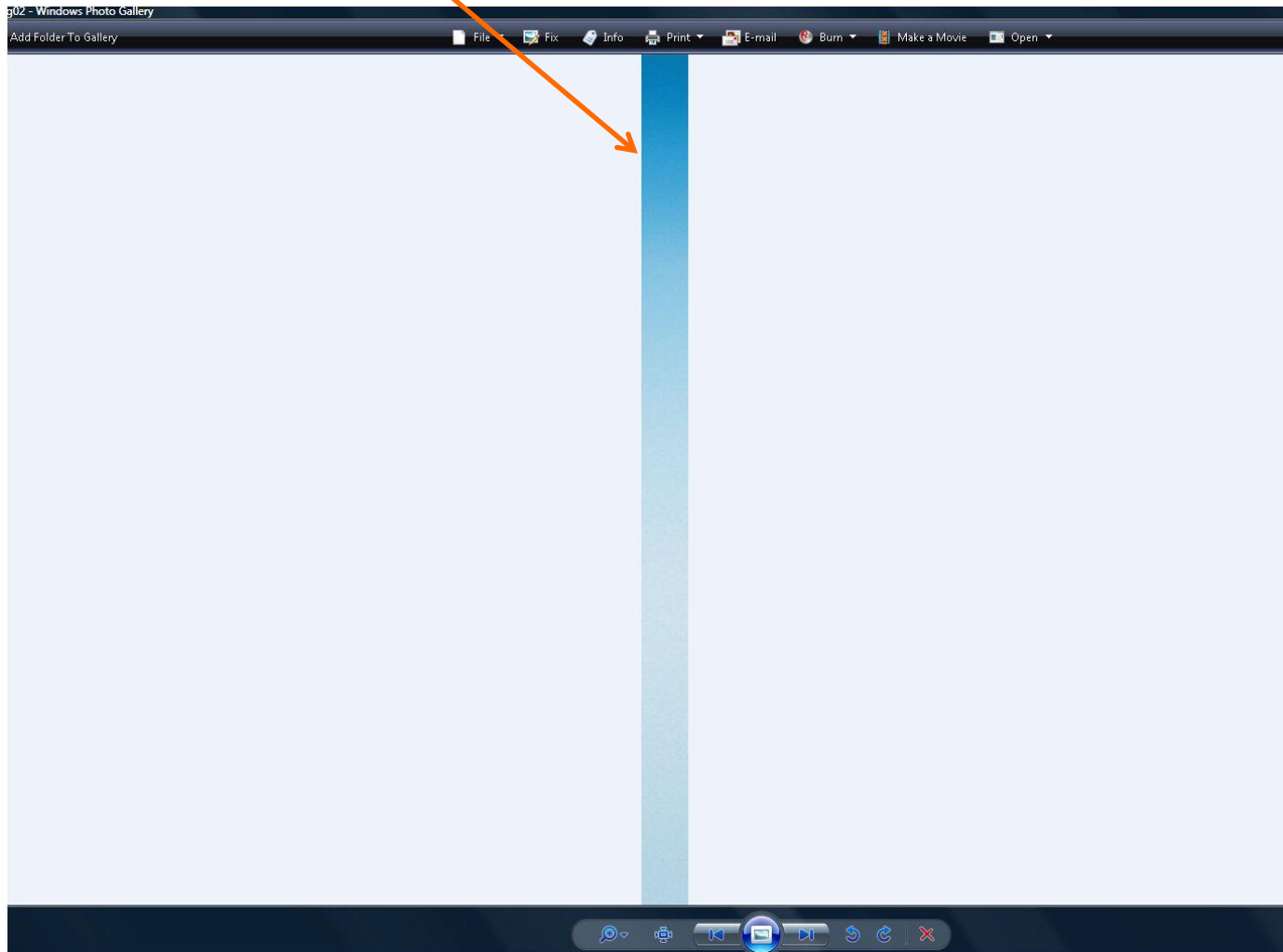
Repeating an image for a background allows you to tile it. See the tutorial “Using/Creating Backgrounds.” for more information.



“IMG02.JPG” USED FOR THE BACKGROUND IS IN THE IMAGES FOLDER OF THE TEMPLATE HERE.



THIS IS “IMG02.JPG” OPENED IN WINDOWS PHOTO GALLERY. JUST A THIN IMAGE, DARK AT THE TOP THAT GETS LIGHTER VERTICALLY. THIS IMAGE IS REPEATED ACROSS THE PAGE.



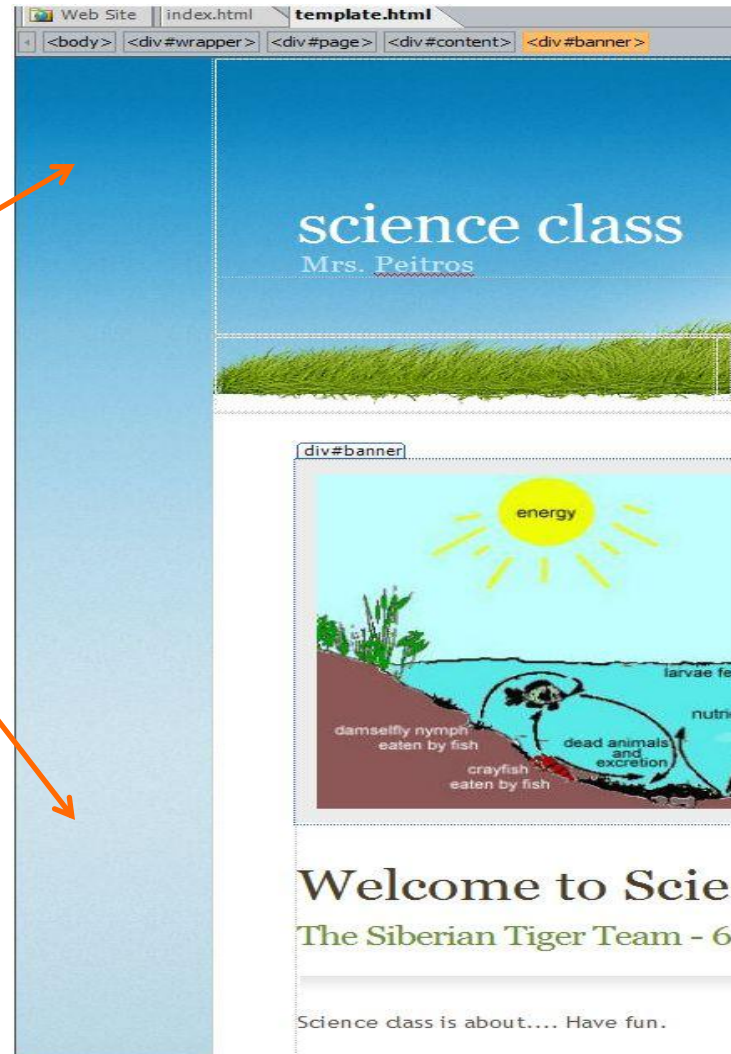
The image is thin and about 900 pixels in height. This will matter later.



YOU CAN SEE HERE HOW IT IS DARK BLUE AT THE TOP AND GETS LIGHTER AS YOU GO DOWN. THE IMAGE IS REPEATED ON AFTER THE NEXT ACROSS THE PAGE TO CREATE THE BACKGROUND.

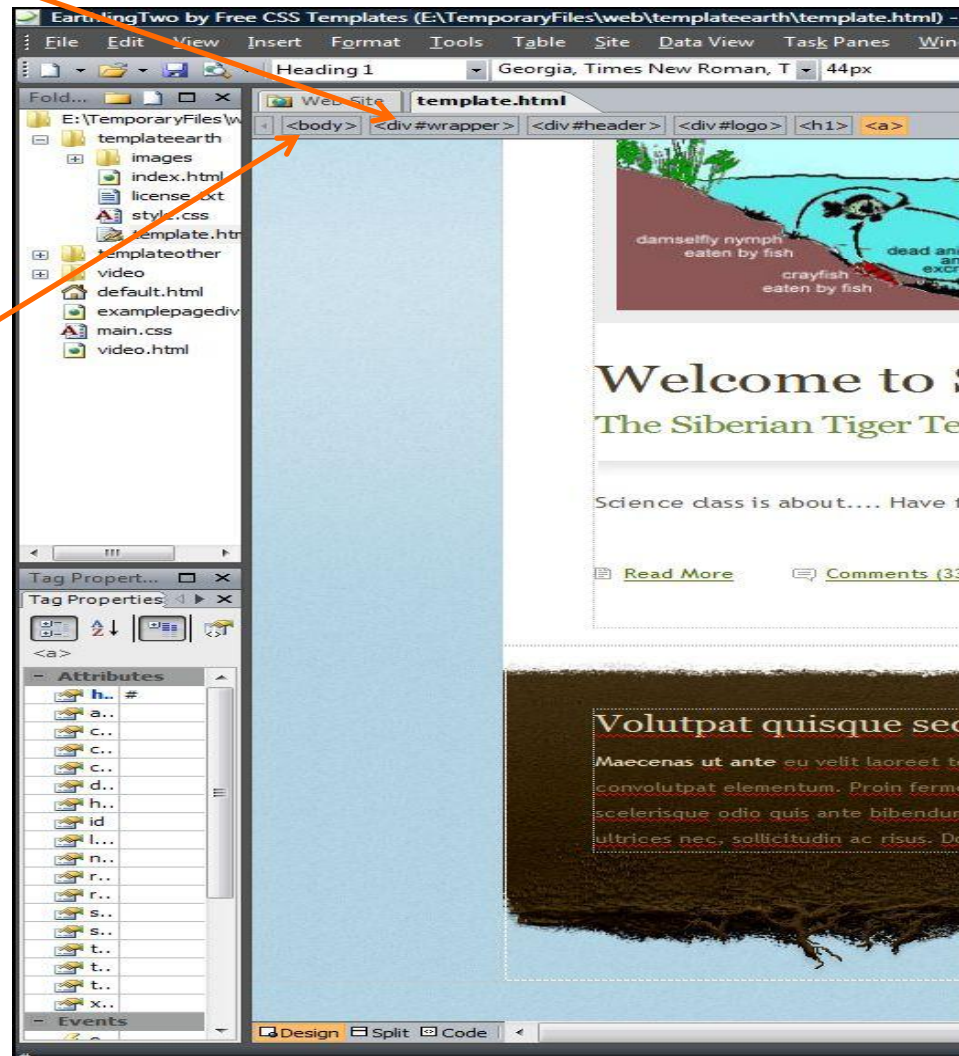
Darker blue at top.

Lighter blue at bottom.

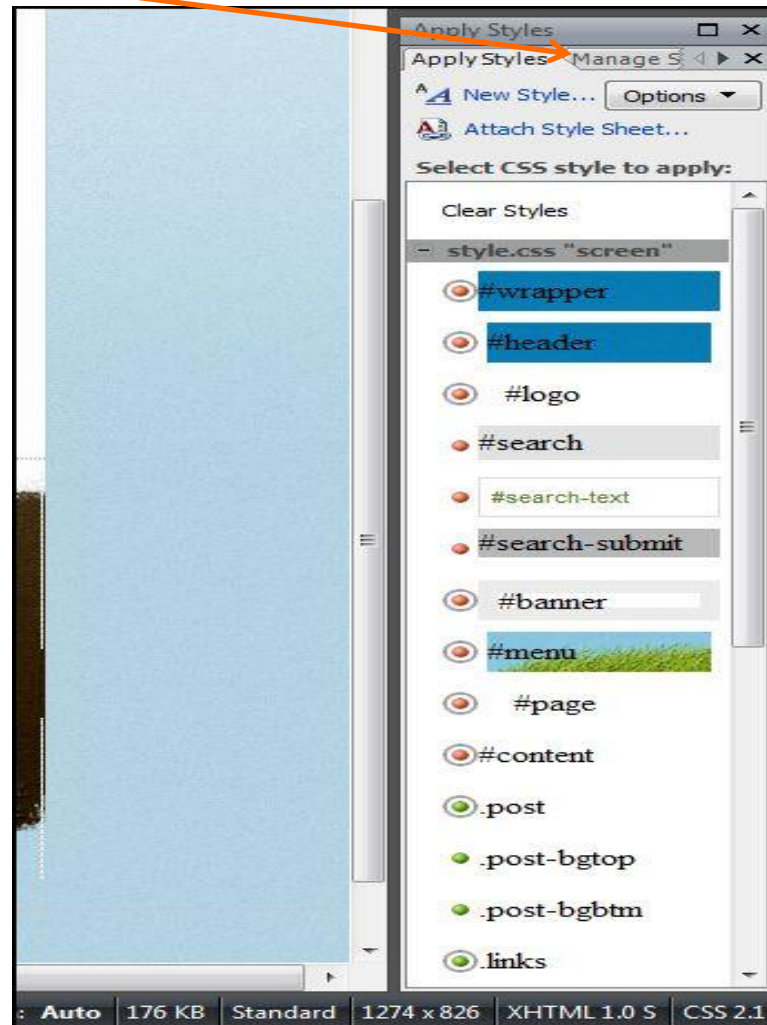


THIS IS THE BOTTOM OF THE TEMPLATE PAGE. SINCE THE DIV#WRAPPER IMAGE IS ONLY 900 PIXELS IN HEIGHT, IT WOULD END AND THE BACKGROUND WOULD BE WHITE.

Instead, another background image of light blue has been added that resides underneath the wrapper image and all over the page. So, once the other image ends, the light blue continues. This image is placed in the "body" CSS.



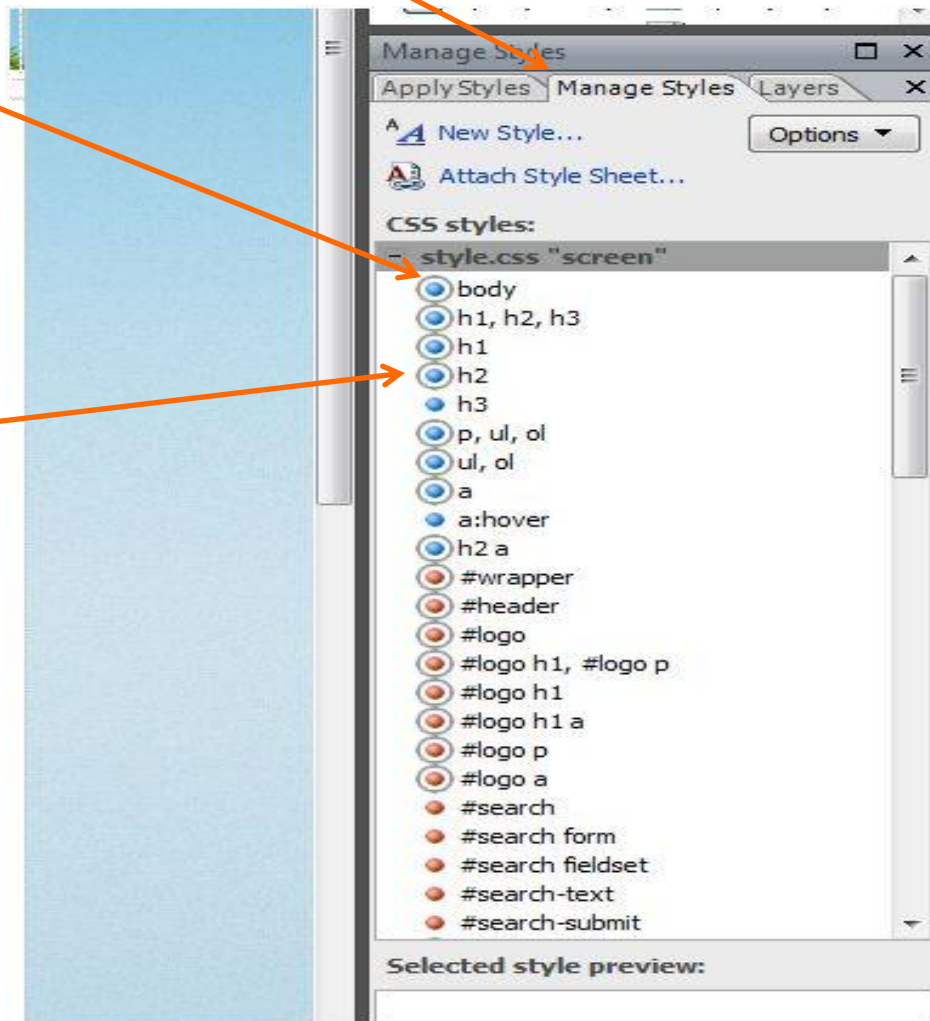
THE “BODY” CSS STYLE IS NOT SHOWN IN THE “APPLY STYLES” TASK PANE. INSTEAD IT CAN BE EDITED THROUGH THE “MANAGE STYLES” TASK PANE. CLICK THE TAB.



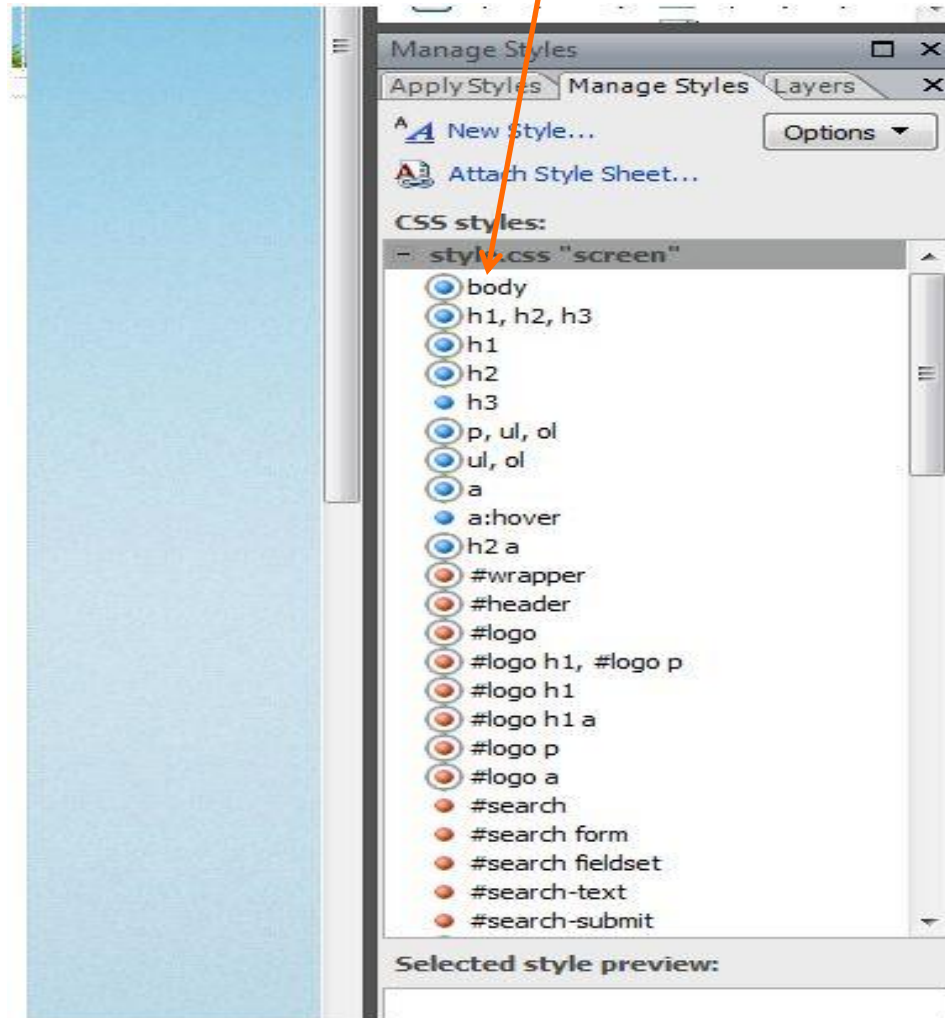
THIS IS THE “MANAGE STYLES” TASK PANE THAT ALSO ALLOWS YOU TO EDIT THE CSS STYLES. HERE YOU CAN SEE AND GET TO THE “BODY.”

You can also specify different font styles within each div or all divs. For example, you can create font styles to change text to different colors, size, type, etc. See “h1,” “h2,” etc. You create a font style to “h1” then apply the style to any text on your page and it will change to that style. This can be very convenient when working with multiple pages from a template css style page.

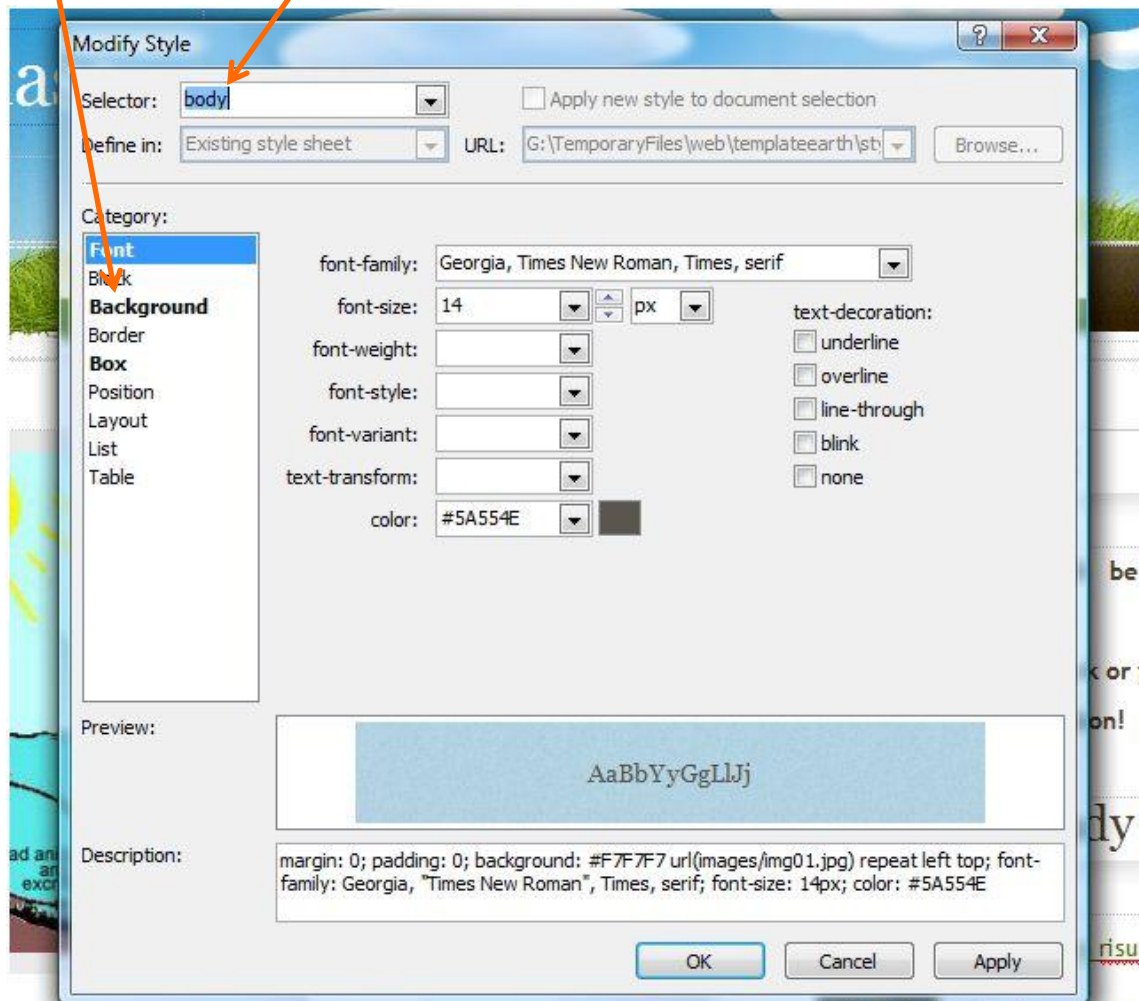
**If confused, we’ll get to it...no worries.



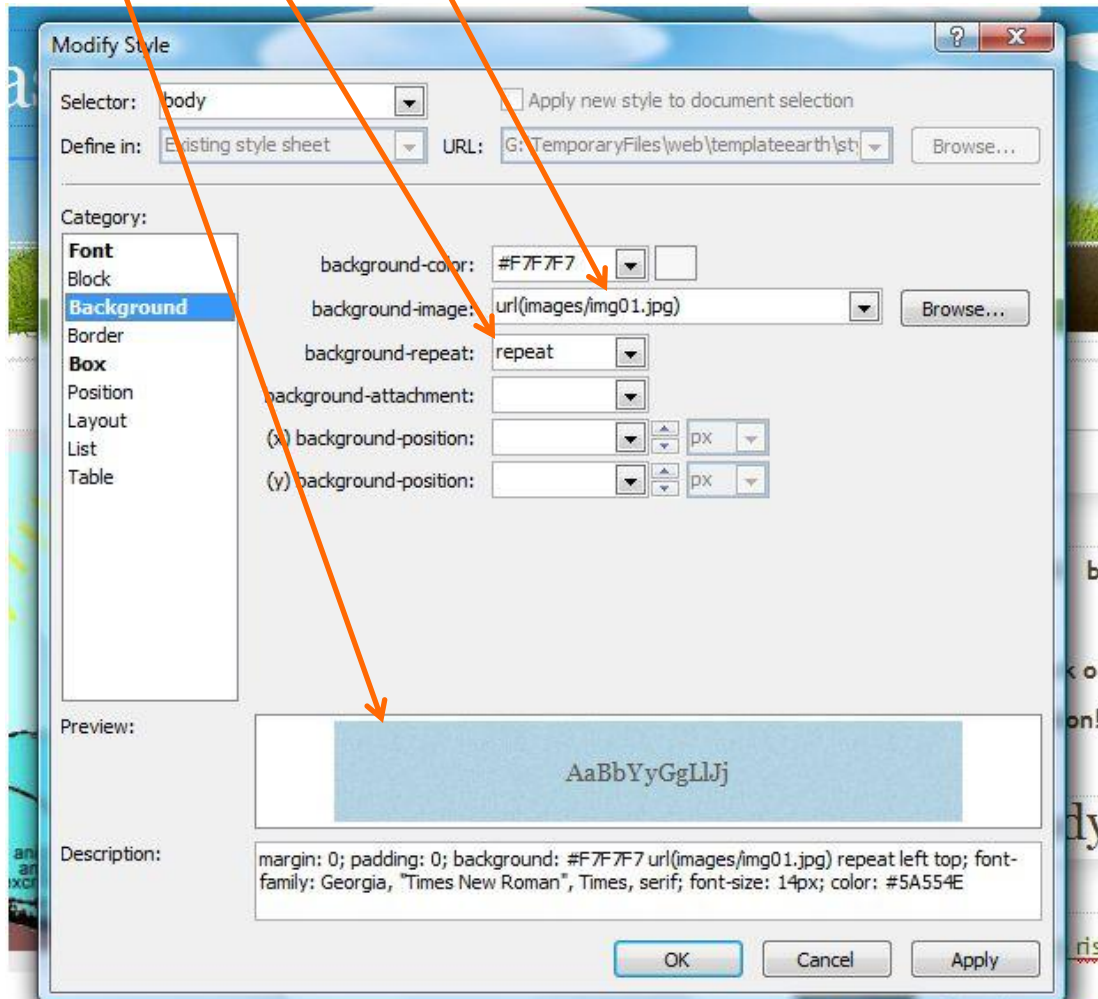
CLICK AND RIGHT-CLICK ON “BODY” THEN
SELECT “MODIFY STYLE...”



THIS PAGE APPEARS. THIS ALLOWS YOU TO MODIFY THE “BODY” OF THE PAGE. CLICK ON THE “BACKGROUND” CATEGORY.

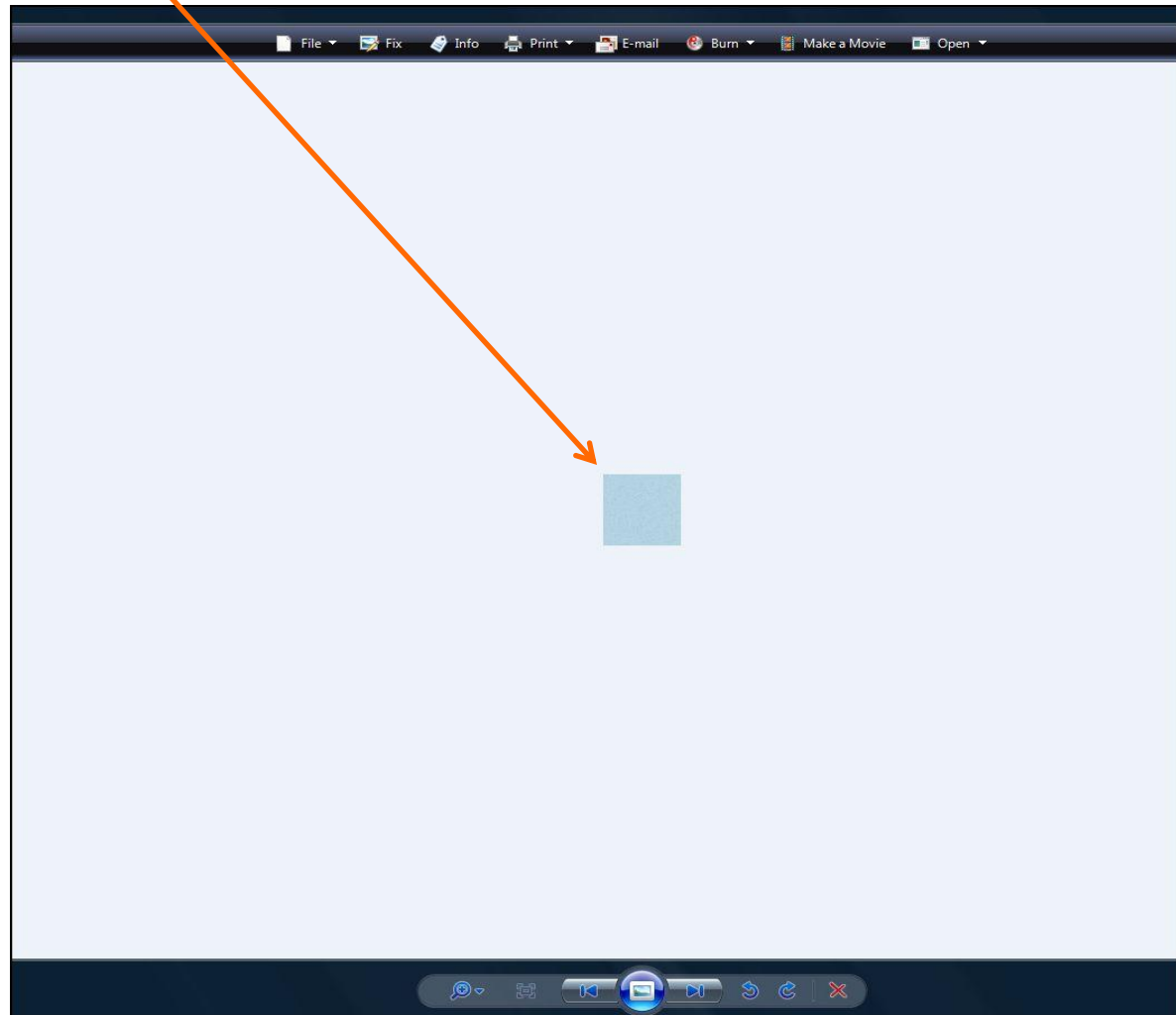


YOU CAN SEE THAT “IMG01.JPG” IS USED FOR THE BACKGROUND, REPEATING THROUGHOUT. THE COLOR IS SHOWN IN THE “PREVIEW” WINDOW BELOW.

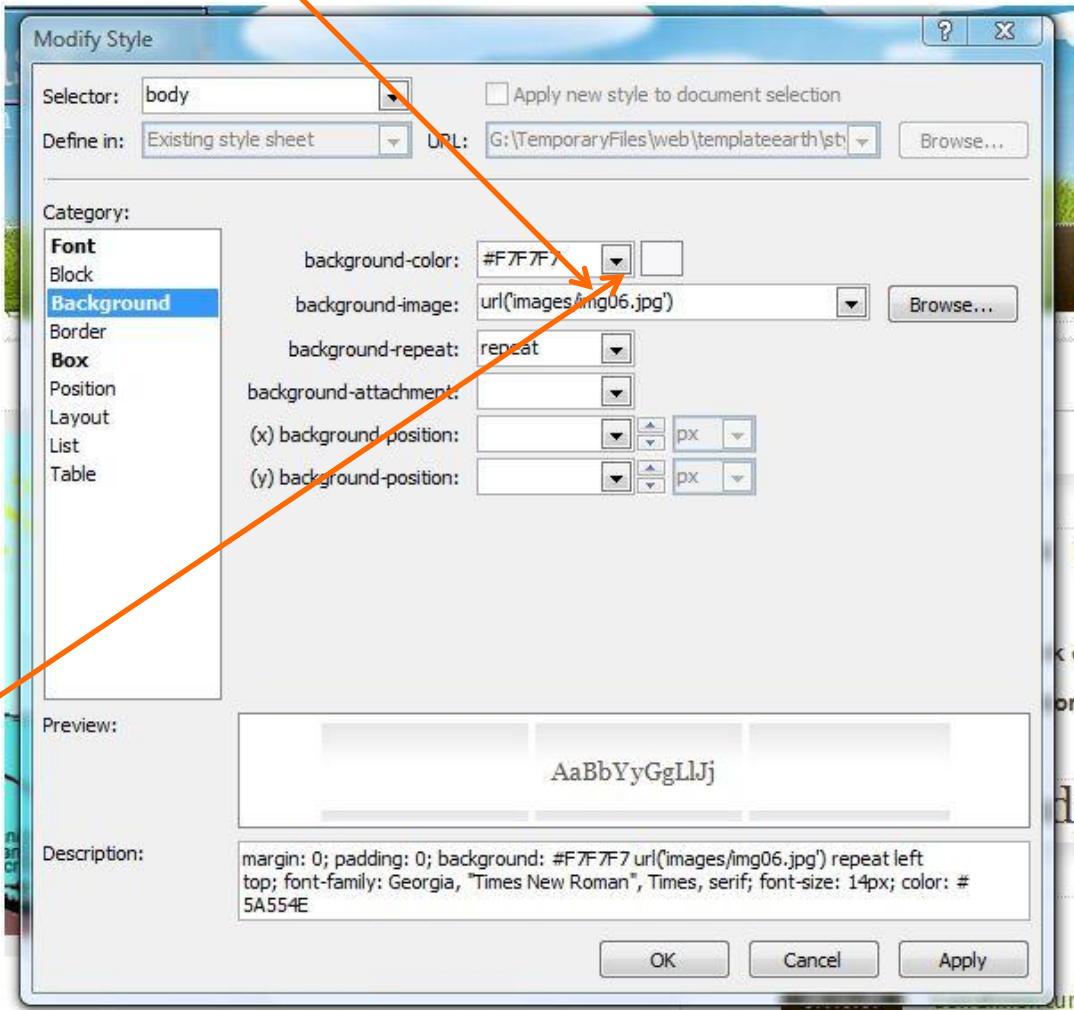


HERE IS “IMG01.JPG” OPENED IN WINDOWS PHOTO GALLERY. JUST A SMALL TILE TO BE REPEATED ALL OVER THE ENTIRE BACKGROUND. KEEP IN MIND, THE OTHER LONG IMAGE (IMG02.JPG) IS LAYERED ON TOP OF THIS REPEATING IMAGE.

Most picture-tiled backgrounds consist of small images like this that are repeated on each axis. If your webpage is scrolled down, it will continue forever.



IF I CHANGE THE BACKGROUND TILE PICTURE FROM THE LIGHT BLUE IMG01.JPG TO IMG06.JPG (A WHITE SMALL PICTURE) YOU CAN SEE HOW THINGS ARE SUPPOSED TO BLEND IN THE TEMPLATE.

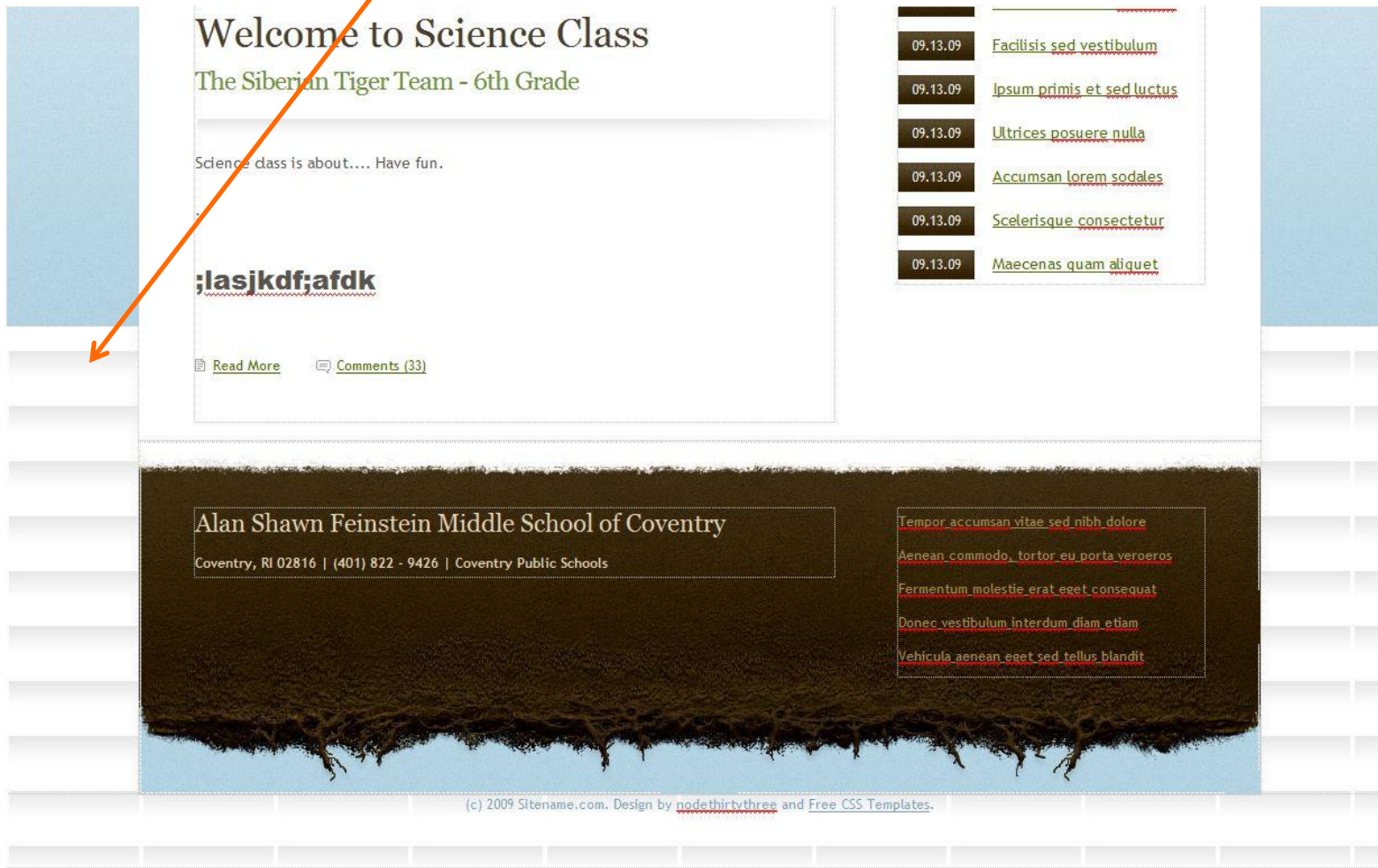


This is a small white with a grey top picture. It will replace the blue tile pic.

You can also use a plain color as the background. Just click the down arrow and choose away.



YOU CAN SEE HERE THAT THE WHITE SMALL PICTURE FILE “IMG06” IS SHOWN WHERE THE DIV#WRAPPER BACKGROUND HAS ENDED.



I CHANGED IT BACK TO THE LIGHT BLUE PICTURE. THE EASIEST FORM OF A BACKGROUND IS TO USE A TILE PICTURE OR COLOR IN THE BODY STYLE, BUT NOW YOU KNOW HOW IT'S DONE BOTH WAYS.

Img01 (light blue tile) is all over and behind all on this page.

Img02 (dark blue at top, lighter towards bottom) is only across the top of the page like a layer over img01.

Web Site template.html index.html

<body> <div#wrapper> <div#header> <div#logo> <h1> <a>

science class

Mrs. Peitros

Home This Week Rubrics Department Contact

Welcome to Science Class

The Siberian Tiger Team - 6th Grade

Science class is about.... Have fun.

[Read More](#) [Comments \(33\)](#)

Class News:

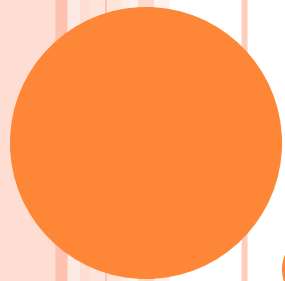
Progress Reports will be going home soon!

Do all of your homework or you will suffer miserably in my detention!

Units of Study

- 09.13.09 [Vestibulum risus vitae](#)
- 09.13.09 [Condimentum et molestie](#)
- 09.13.09 [Facilisis sed vestibulum](#)
- 09.13.09 [Ipsum primis et sed luctus](#)
- 09.13.09 [Ultrices posuere nulla](#)
- 09.13.09 [Accumsan lorem sodales](#)
- 09.13.09 [Scelerisque consectetur](#)
- 09.13.09 [Maecenas quam aliquet](#)





THE END

See other tutorials for more ways to edit your web pages with CSS.