



EDITING A CSS TEMPLATE: AN INTRODUCTION

Beginning to make it your own

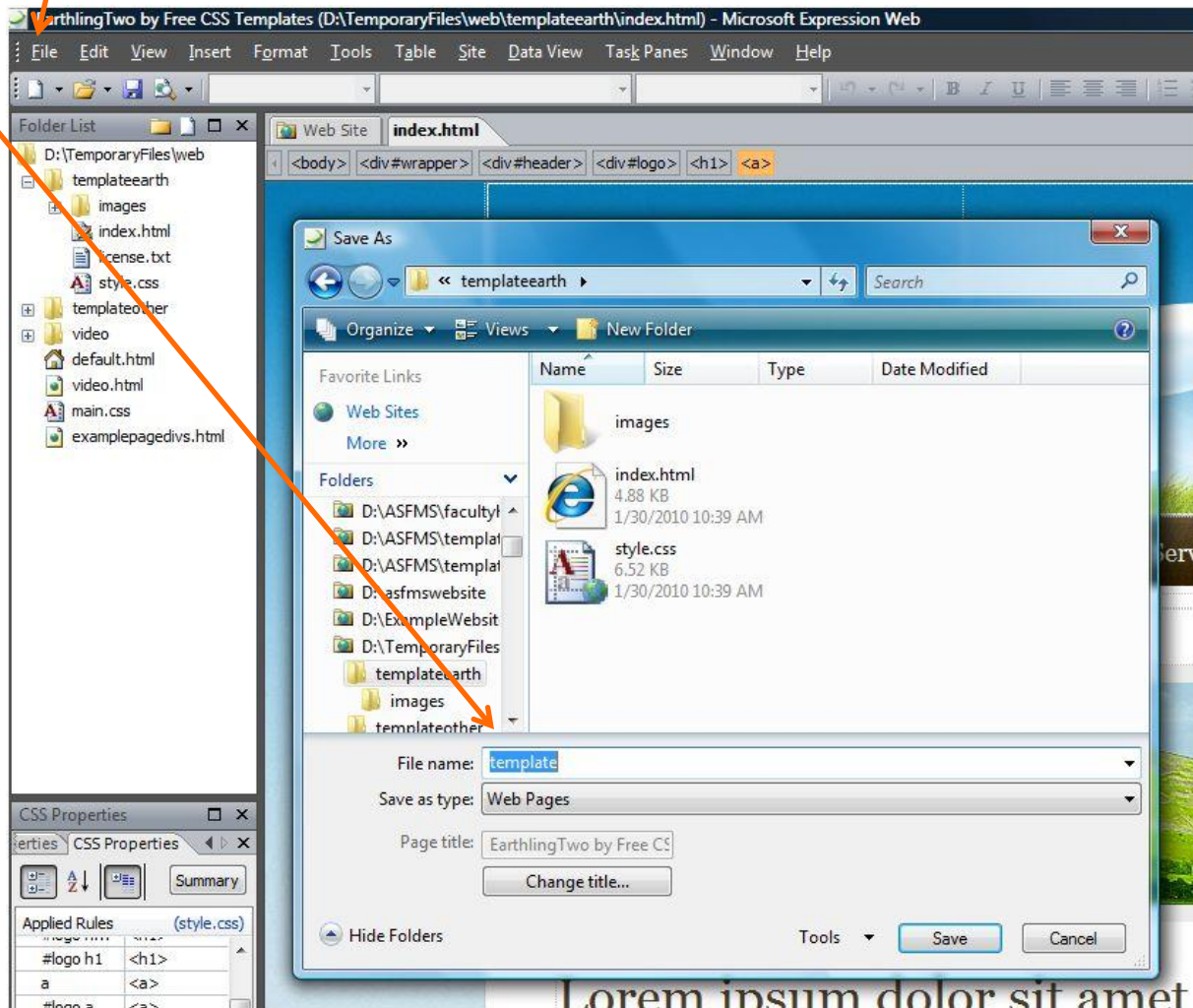
By Ted Mitchell

OPEN THE INDEX FILE FROM THE TEMPLATE YOU IMPORTED TO YOUR SITE. NOW, YOU NEED TO EDIT IT TO MAKE IT FIT YOUR NEEDS.



NOW, CLICK “FILE” AND “SAVE AS” THEN SAVE IT AS “TEMPLATE.” THE GOAL HERE IS TO HAVE AN ORIGINAL COPY TO USE FOR OTHER PAGES. (AND A BACKUP)

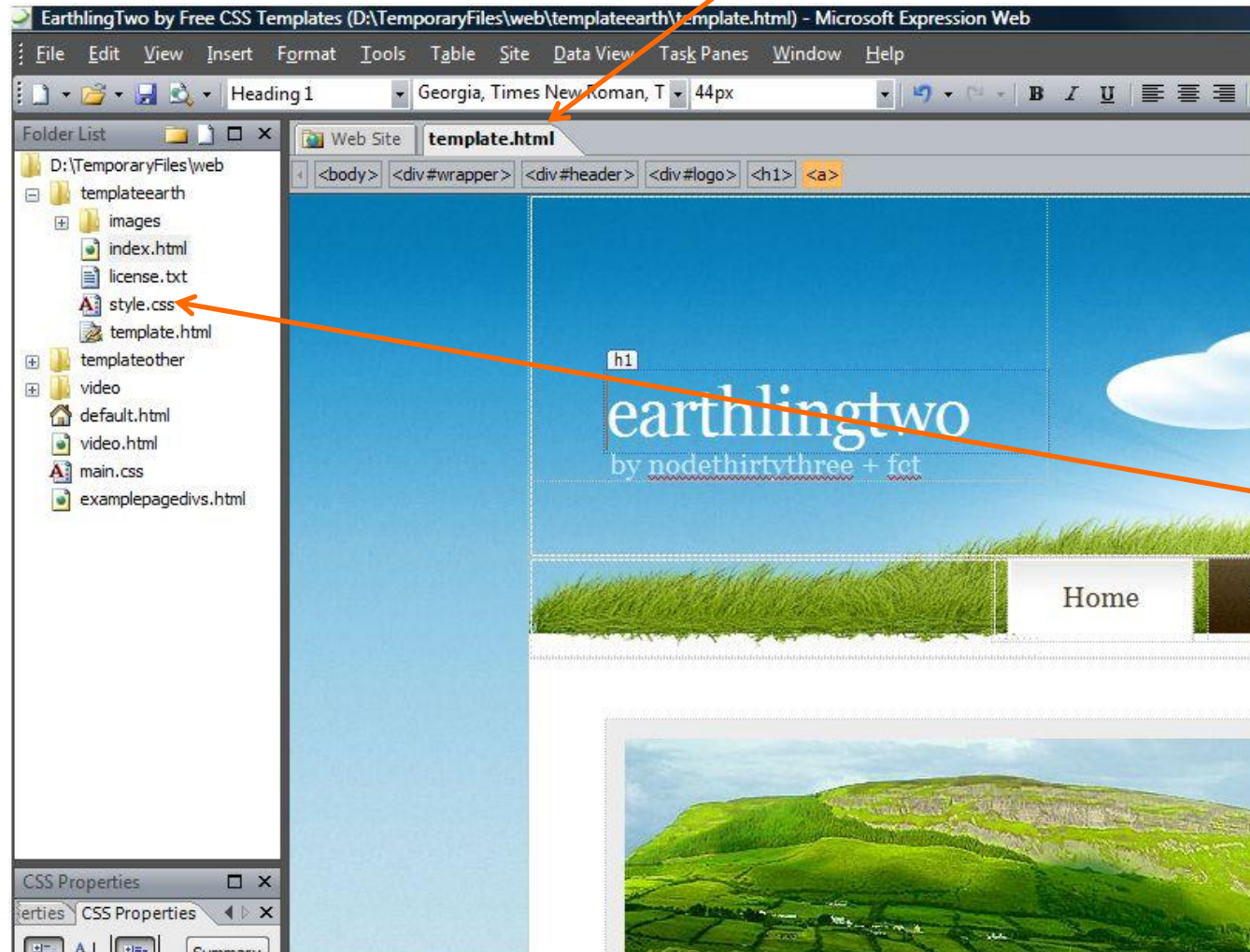
You should also have a copy on your computer from when you downloaded it from the template site.



Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet



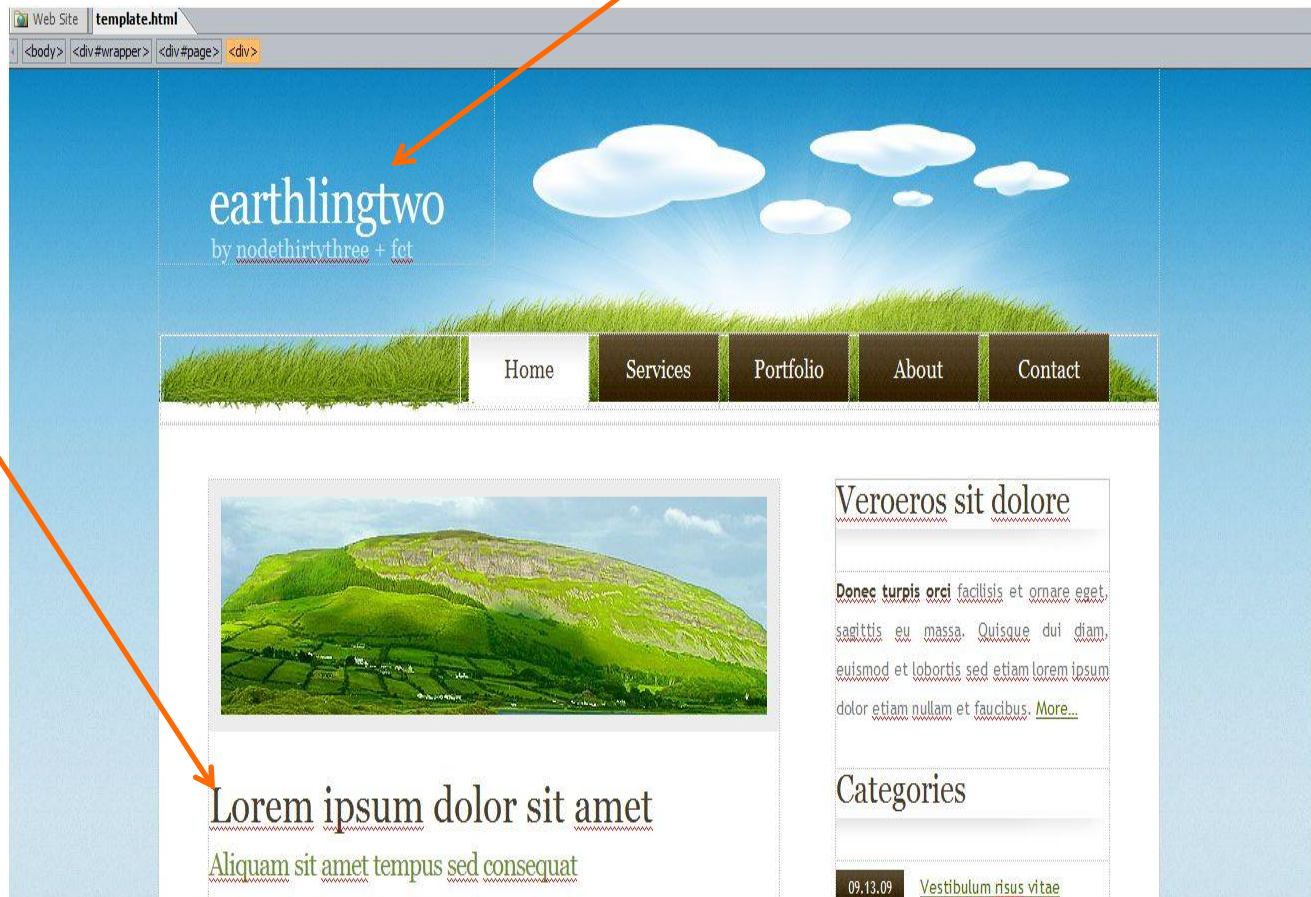
YOU SEE THAT IT HAS CHANGED TO “TEMPLATE” FROM “INDEX.” NOW, EDIT THIS VERSION AND YOU CAN USE IT ON OTHER PAGES TOO.



Keep in mind that this page works off of the same CSS style page (style.css). So, make sure you keep the copy of it on your computer as a backup.



CSS DIVIDES UP THE PAGE INTO “DIVS” OR BOXES THAT HAVE STYLES ASSIGNED TO THEM. SO, IN THE TITLE BOX YOU SEE BIG WHITE LETTERS. OTHER DIVS HAVE DIFFERENT STYLES.



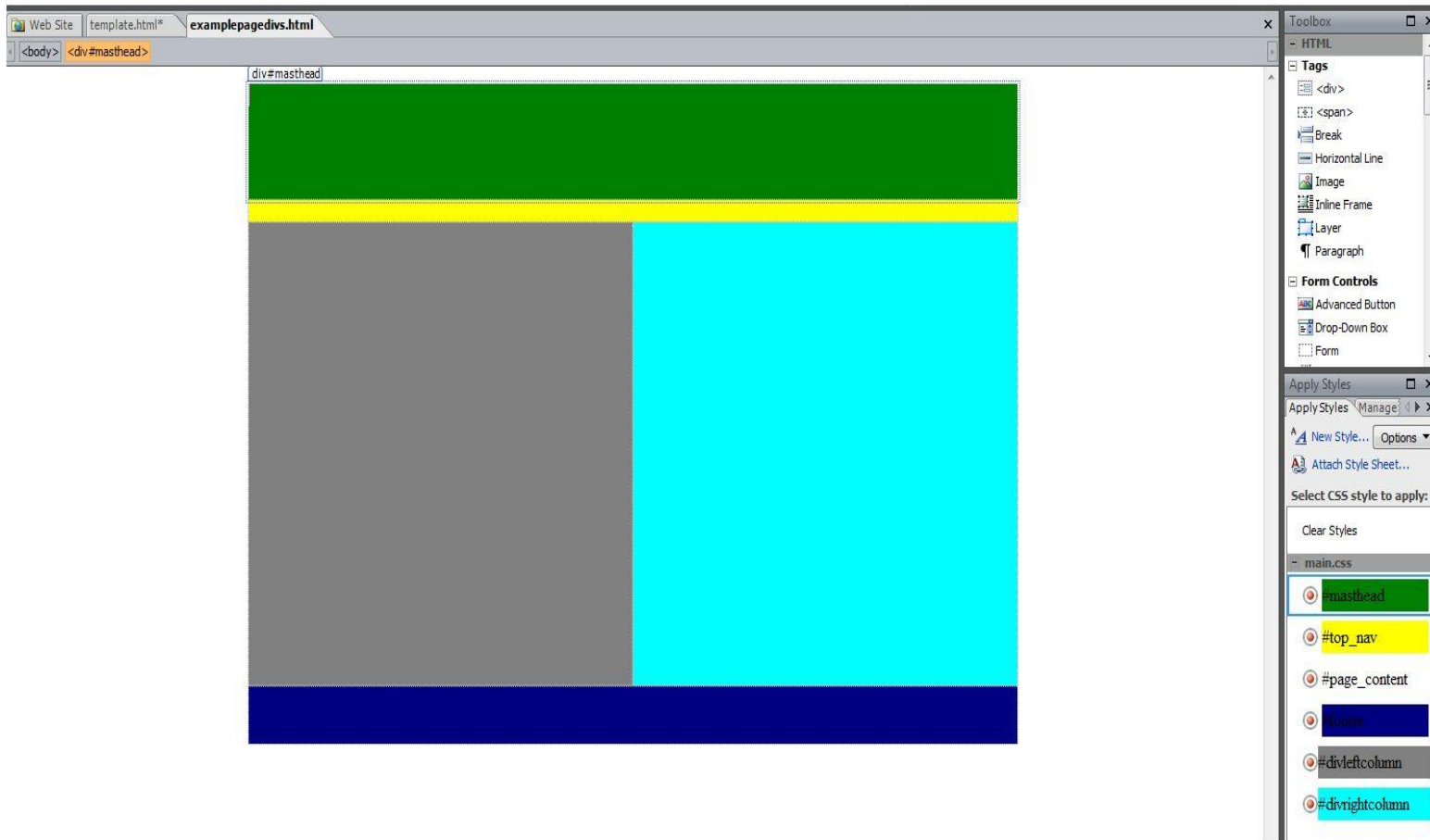
In the content box, header text is brown, for example. You assign these styles to these “divs.” You have many options.



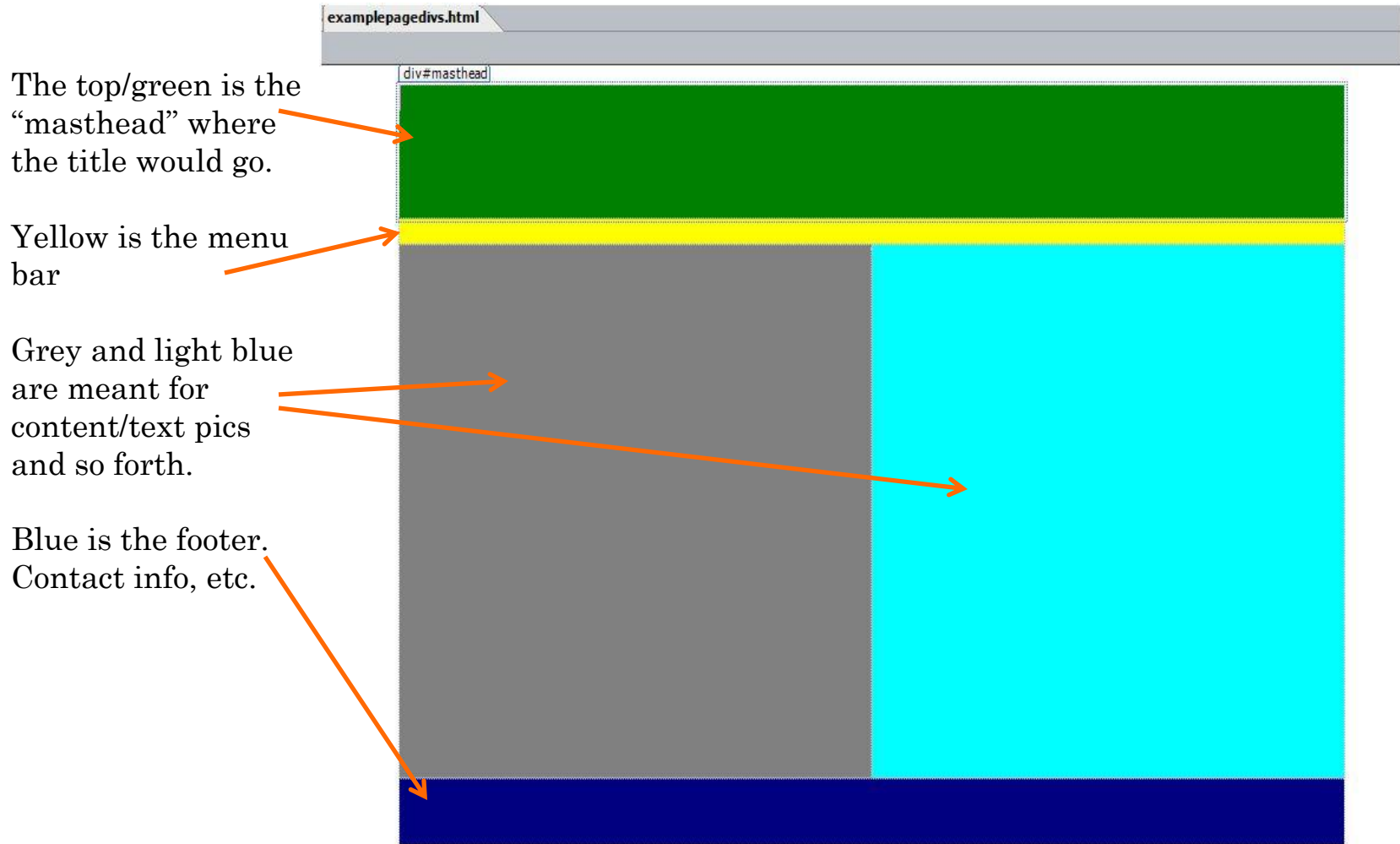
I CLICKED ON AND HIGHLIGHTED THE DIV CALLED “DIV#CONTENT.”
FONT, BACKGROUND, POSITION, ETC. IS ASSIGNED IN THIS BOX. IN
FACT, THERE ARE OTHER DIVS INSIDE OF IT WITH OTHER TRAITS.



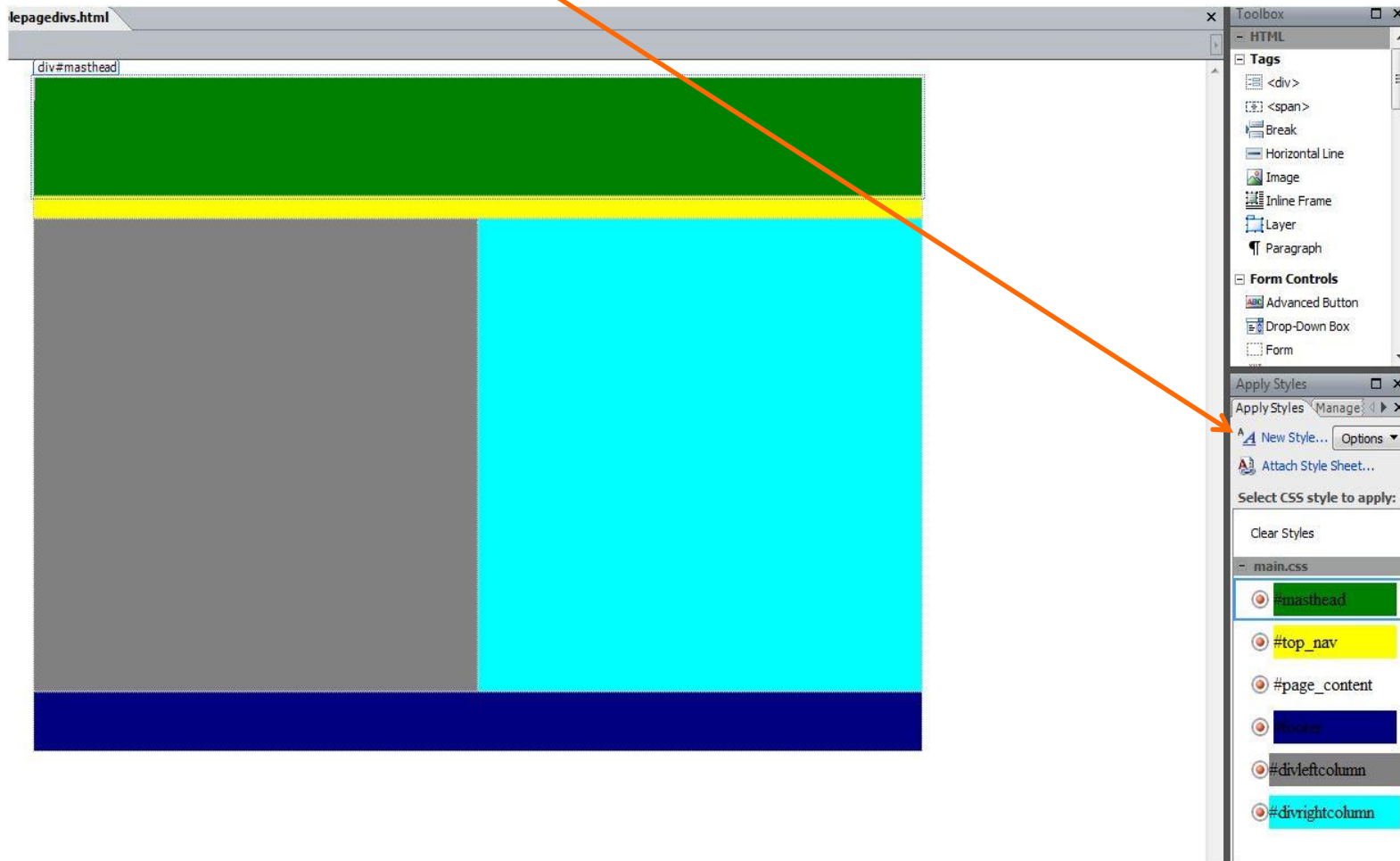
BELOW IS AN EXAMPLE OF A CSS PAGE WITH EACH DIV WITH A DIFFERENT COLOR. THE TEMPLATE WE ARE USING IS DESIGNED LIKE THIS ORIGINALLY...THEN MUCH MORE DETAIL LATER.



EACH COLOR IS MEANT TO BE A DIFFERENT PART OF YOUR PAGE WITH DIFFERENT FONT, BACKGROUND, ETC. CHARACTERISTICS.



THE “APPLY STYLES” TOOLBOX IS WHERE YOU GO TO EDIT THESE DIVS. MORE ON THIS LATER.



THIS TEMPLATE HAS DIVS AS WELL. MASTHEAD, MENU, CONTENT, ETC. ALL WITH THEIR OWN CHARACTERISTICS ASSIGNED TO THEM.



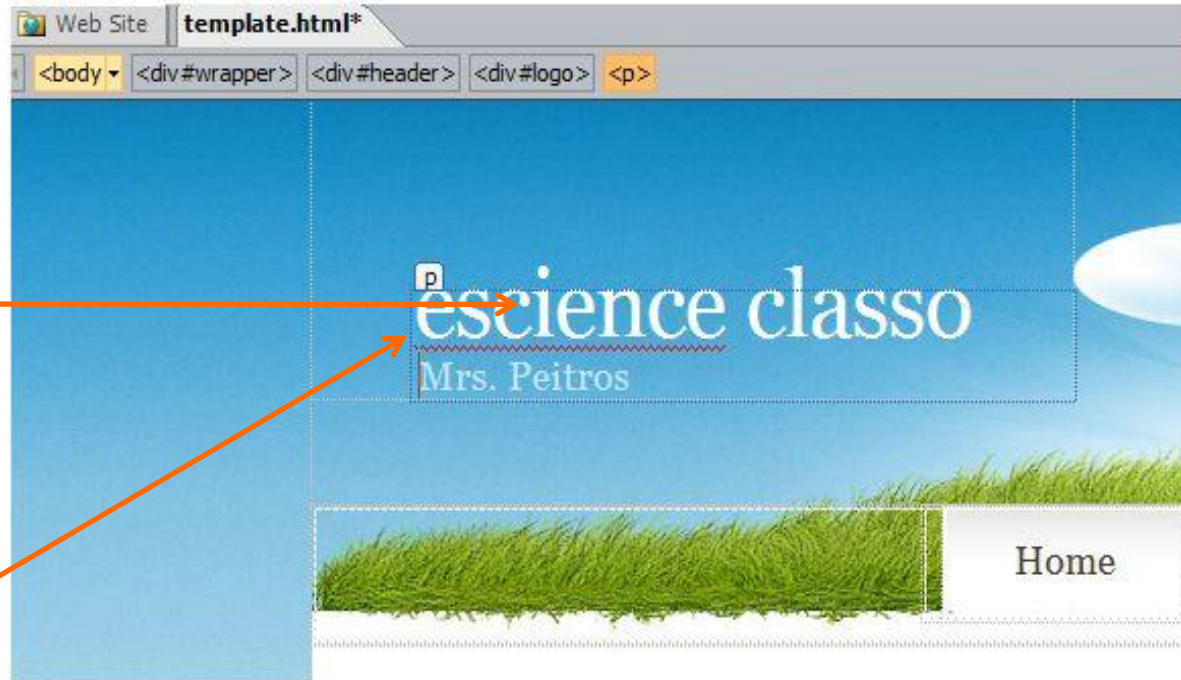
IF YOU LIKED THE STRUCTURE, COLORS, PICTURES, ETC. OF THE TEMPLATE, YOU COULD SIMPLY CHANGE ALL THE TEXT, LINKS, AND BE DONE.

You can change any of this text to whatever you want it to say. Rather than “earthlingtwo” it could read “Science Class” instead.



EDITING TEXT WITHOUT DELETING THE STYLE OF IT.

I changed the title by placing the cursor in between the letters of the title so as not to delete the style. This is why there's an "e" and an "o" on either side. Delete these and the title is yours.



I DELETED THE “E” AND THE “O” ON EACH END AND NOW THE TITLE IS ALL SET. ACTUALLY, THIS CSS FONT TRAIT IS TELLING ALL TEXT TO BE LOWERCASE. YOU CAN FIX THAT LATER.

I also changed the sub-title text to “Mrs. Pietros”

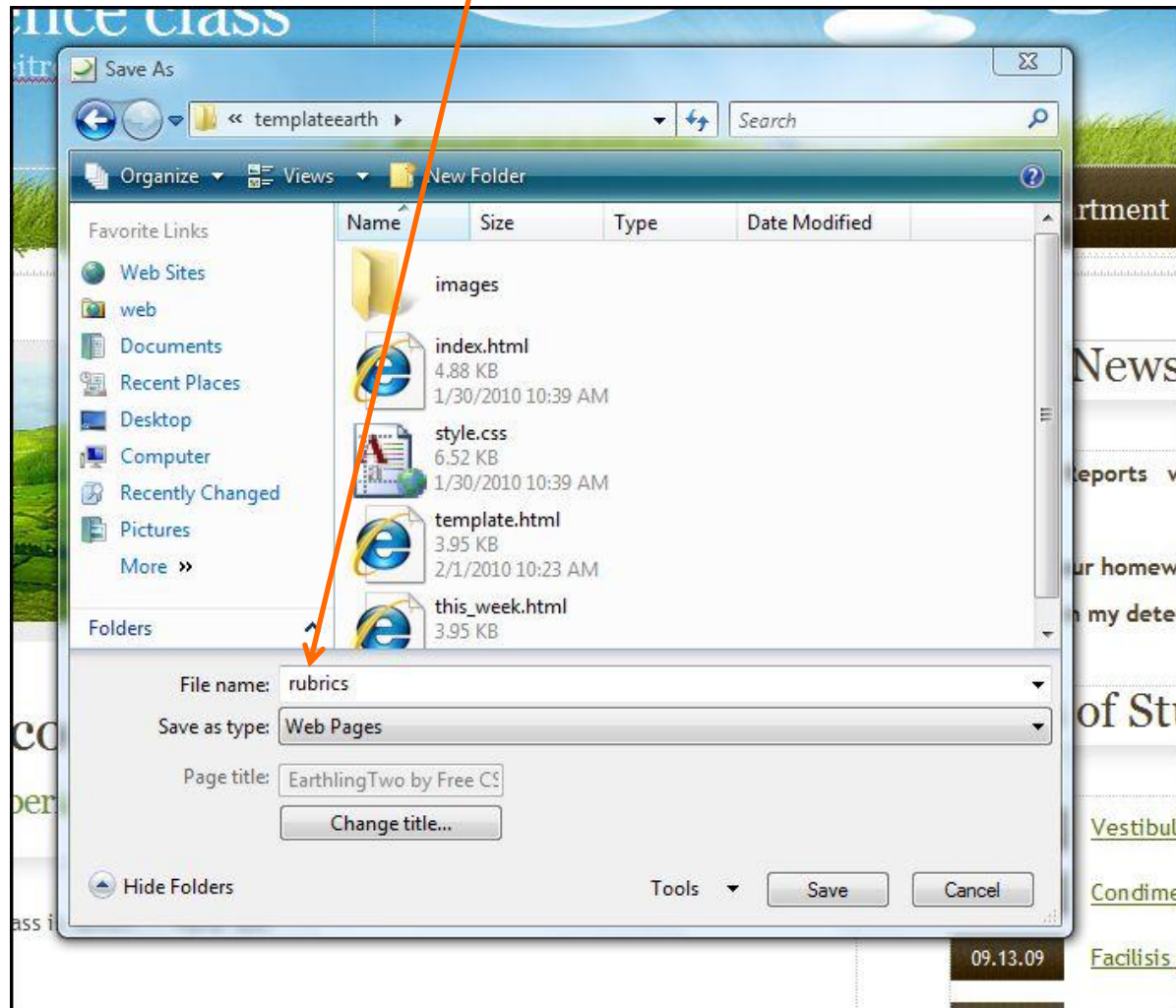


I JUST WENT THROUGH AND EDITED A BUNCH OF TEXT, INCLUDING THE MENU. IF YOU PLACE THE CURSOR IN BETWEEN THE TEXT, THEN EDIT, YOU'LL ALWAYS KEEP THE SAME FONT OR STYLE. THIS TOOK ME A FEW MINUTES AT MOST.

I changed the menu tabs. So, now I need to create pages to link too. For example, I need a "This week" page that people can click and go to for a class agenda.

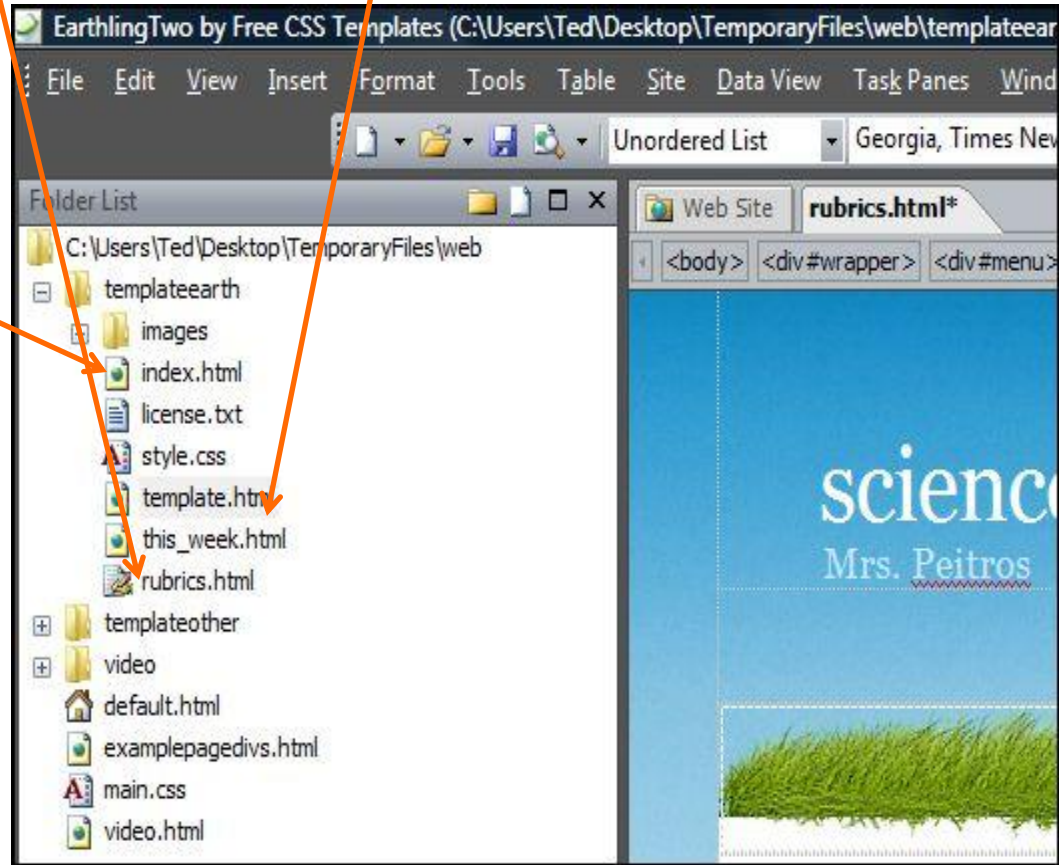


YOU CAN MAKE MORE COPIES OF THE SAME PAGE BY CLICKING “FILE” THEN “SAVE AS” THEN NAMING IT A DIFFERENT NAME, LIKE “RUBRICS.”



I SIMPLY SAVED A COPY OF THE TEMPLATE AND NOW HAVE PAGES FOR “RUBRICS” AND “THIS WEEK.” OF COURSE, I STILL NEED TO EDIT EACH OF THOSE PAGES WITH APPROPRIATE CONTENT.

The “Home” page would be the “index.html” file. On coventryschools.net server this home page needs to be “index.htm” for some reason (not .html)



NOW, THE CONTENT NEEDS TO BE EDITED/ADDED FOR EACH PAGE. YOU CAN INSERT IMAGES, VIDEO, ANIMATIONS, ETC. SEE OTHER TUTORIALS FOR THAT. FOR NOW, ANY TEXT CAN BE ALTERED.

The screenshot displays a web browser window with the address bar showing 'rubrics.html'. The browser's toolbar includes various editing tools like bold, italic, underline, and text color. The website content is as follows:

- Navigation Menu:** Home, This Week, Rubrics, Department, Contact
- Main Image:** A large landscape image of a green hill under a blue sky.
- Section Header:**

Welcome to Science Class

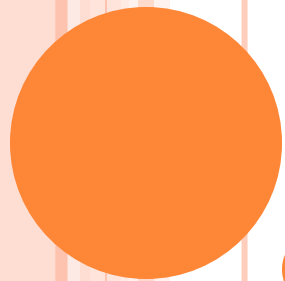
The Siberian Tiger Team - 6th Grade
- Text:** Science class is about.... Have fun.
- Buttons:** [Read More](#) and [Comments \(33\)](#)
- Class News:**

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 right sidebar contains a 'Toolbox' with HTML tags like <div>, , and , as well as form controls like 'Apply Styles' and 'Clear Styles'. A vertical list of CSS classes is visible, including #wrapper, #header, #logo, #search, #search-text, #search-sub, #banner, #menu, #page, and #content.





THE END

This is only a introduction to working with CSS templates. There's much more to learn...