Class Methods

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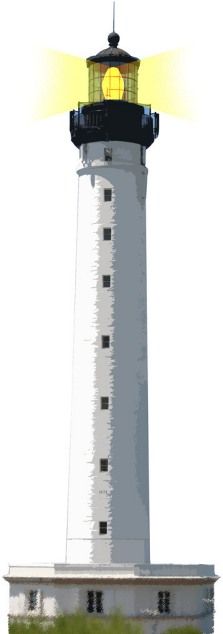
W3S06

http://www.pharo.org



Class Methods

1. in Pharo, everything is an object
2. objects can receive messages
3. classes are objects too

Classes can receive messages

Examples

```
Time now
> 9:18:36.304688 pm
```

The message now is sent to the class Time

```
Date today
> 29 July 2015
```

The message today is sent to the class Date

Examples

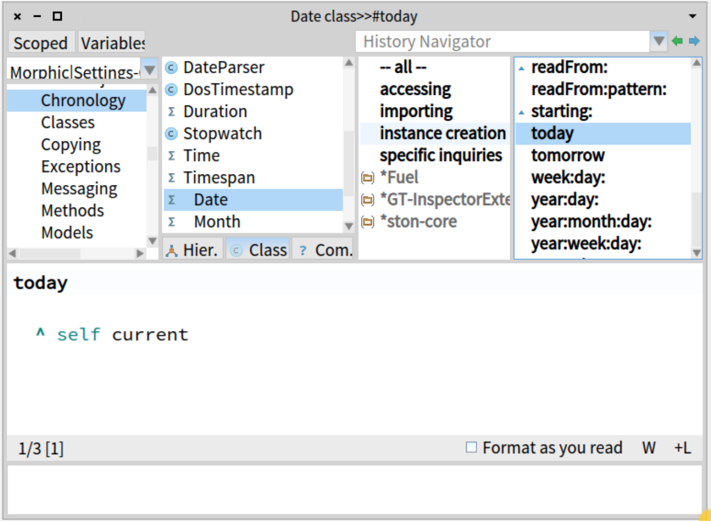
```
FileLocator workingDirectory
```

```
ZnEasy getPng: 'http://pharo.org/web/files/pharo.png'
```

```
ZnServer startDefaultOn: 8080
```

Class Methods are Defined on Class Side

Note the Class button pressed!



```
today

  ^ self current
```

Common Mistake

```
Counter class >> withValue: anInteger
  self new
    value: anInteger;
    yourself
```

Counter withValue: 10 **returns the class** Counter **instead of a new instance**

Why?

```
Counter class >> withValue: anInteger
  self new
    value: anInteger;
    yourself
```

is equivalent to

```
Counter class >> withValue: anInteger
  self new
    value: anInteger;
    yourself.
  ^ self
```

self here is the class Counter (the receiver of the message)

Solution

```
Counter class >> withValue: anInteger
  ^ self new
    value: anInteger;
    yourself
```

Summary

- Classes are objects
- Messages can be sent to classes too
- Class-side methods are no different from other methods
- Most class-side methods create new instances
- To define a class-side method, press the class button

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