

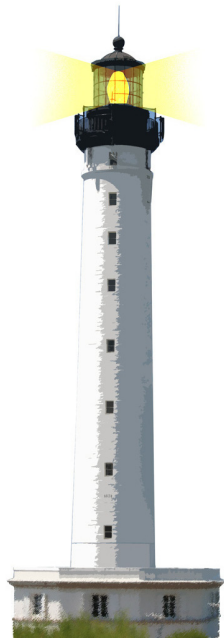
Class Methods

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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`

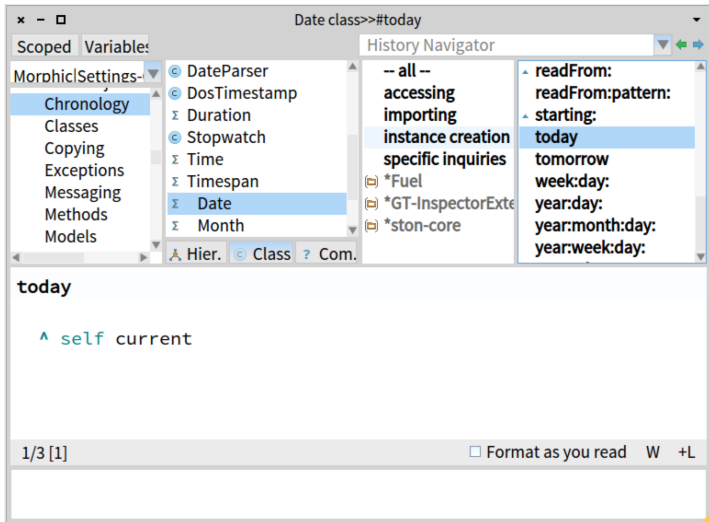
`ZnEasy` `getPng`: '<http://pharo.org/web/files/pharo.png>'

`ZnServer` `startDefaultOn`: 8080



Class Methods are Defined on Class Side

Note the Class button pressed!



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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