CS161: Introduction to Computer Science Lab Assignment 5

This week we are looking at more sophisticated examples of classes. In particular, we're looking at different ways in which classes can interact.

In-class we saw the BankAccount and Bank class. The Bank class contains methods that (1) take objects of type BankAccount as input parameters and (2) return objects of type BankAccount as return values.

In lab, we're going to explore another way in which two classes can interact: a class can have instance variables whose types are themselves classes.

To illustrate this concept, you're going to be creating primitive organisms which consist of a brain, a stomach, and a name. Download the starter code for this lab from the course webpage. You can use your Brain and Stomach classes from last week's lab or use the ones in the starter code. Your job is to *use* these classes to create your Organism class.

___ Organism Class _____

- 1. Begin by opening the Brain and Stomach classes and reminding yourself of their respective documentations. Make sure you're familiar with the methods in each class.
- 2. Open the Organism class. Your job is to finish writing this class. An organism should have a brain, a stomach, and a name. Fill-in the instance variables and the constructor for this class.
- **3**. Next, fill-in the methods for the Organism class. The methods in this class are truly just *wrapper* methods i.e., methods that call other methods to do the hard work. As a result, none of these methods should be longer than a few lines of code.

Tester Class

Once your Organism class is written and compiles, you can start creating actual organisms. Open up the Tester class and in the main method, create an organism. Have your organism perform at least 5 different actions. Print the state of your organism after each action.

Once you finish, call me or the student assistant over so we can see your work.

Extensions

There are lots of ways that you can extend this primitive organism:

- 1. Add asexual reproduction to the Organism class. In reality, if our organism could not reproduce, it would quickly become extinct. Create a method inside the Organism class called reproduce that returns a new organism. The name of the new organism should somehow be related to the name of the original organism. For example, if your organism is named "ozzy" then the new organism might be named "ozzy 1".
- 2. Continuing with the previous idea, how could you modify your Organism class so that it keeps track of the number of children produced and numbers them accordingly? I.e., the first time the reproduce method is called, the new organism has the name "ozzy 1". The next time the reproduce method is called, the new organism has the name "ozzy 2". Then "ozzy 3", "ozzy 4", etc.
- 3. In your Tester class, create children and grandchildren for your original organism.

_____ Submitting your lab assignment _____

You should submit your lab5 folder with the following classes: Brain, Stomach, Organism, and Tester. Rename the folder using both of your names. Then zip and submit via Moodle.