MORE ABOUT STRINGS

We have already discussed strings in detail earlier. What more can there be to know? Well, did you know that strings are also objects and have methods which do everything from checking part of a string to stripping spaces!

The strings that you use in program are all objects of the class str. Some useful methods of this class are demonstrated in the next example. For a complete list of such methods, see help(str).

Example (save as ds_str_methods.py):

```
# This is a string object
name = 'Swaroop'

if name.startswith('Swa'):
    print 'Yes, the string starts with "Swa"'

if 'a' in name:
    print 'Yes, it contains the string "a"'
```

```
if name.find('war') != -1:
    print 'Yes, it contains the string "war"'

delimiter = '_*_'
mylist = ['Brazil', 'Russia', 'India', 'China']
print delimiter.join(mylist)
```

Output:

```
$ python ds_str_methods.py
Yes, the string starts with "Swa"
Yes, it contains the string "a"
Yes, it contains the string "war"
Brazil_*_Russia_*_India_*_China
```

How It Works

Here, we see a lot of the string methods in action. The startswith method is used to find out whether the string starts with the given string. The in operator is used to check if a given string is a part of the string.

The find method is used to locate the position of the given substring within the string; find returns -1 if it is unsuccessful in finding the substring. The str class also has a neat method to join the items of a sequence with the string acting as a delimiter between each item of the sequence and returns a bigger string generated from this.

Source: http://www.swaroopch.com/notes/python/