

Imagine reading your morning newspaper and coming across a reference to a past article. In a Web document, the reference could be a hyperlink, or “hot spot.” If you moved the arrow to the link and clicked the mouse button, you would then see the requested article on your screen. Try doing that with your local paper!

Using a Web Browser

A browser is an application that runs on your computer and enables you to visit pages on the World Wide Web. These pages reside on computers called Web servers. A Web server is a computer designed to listen for requests and then send out the pages requested. Once the page has been sent to your computer, the browser translates the HTML programming language into formatted text and graphics, which are then displayed in a browser window on your computer. As you read the document, you might come across a hyperlink that looks interesting. When you click on the hyperlink, a new connection is established to the Web server, and the new information request is sent and then displayed in your browser window.

The two most popular Web browsers are Netscape Navigator and Internet Explorer. While each differs in features, both do basically the same thing: locate and display Web pages in a window on your computer screen.

Hot spot
A portion of an image or a piece of text that changes the arrow to a hand with a pointing finger, indicating the location of a hyperlink. You can click on a hot spot to go to a linked Web page.



Internet Explorer browser window



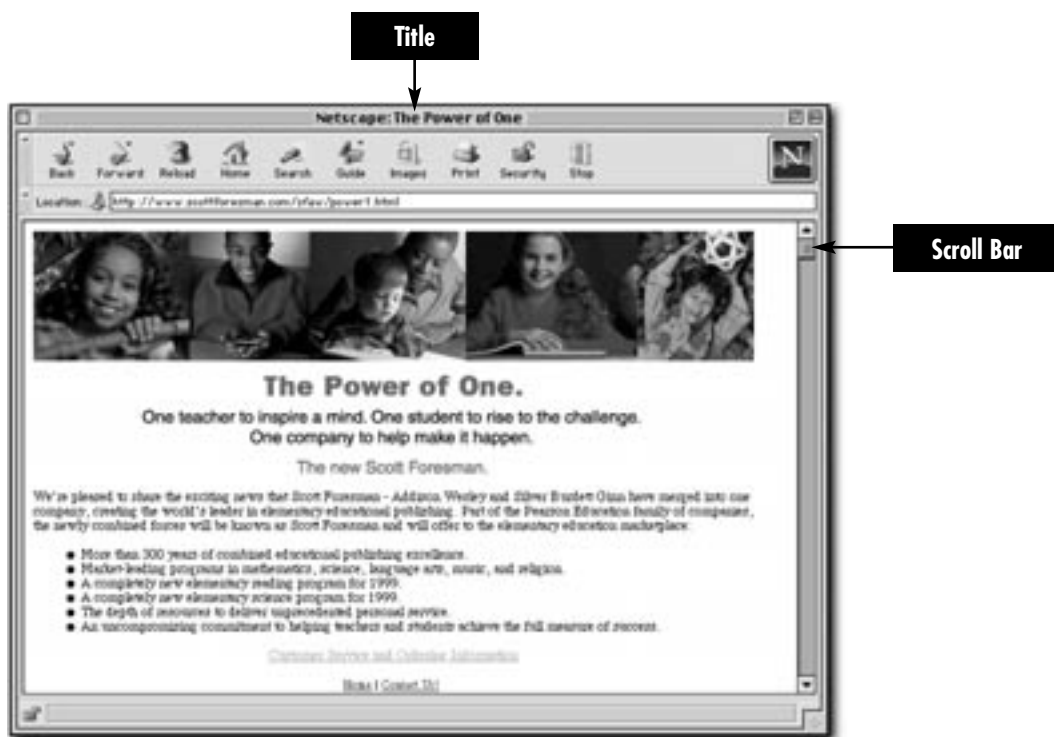
Netscape Navigator browser window

Listed below are some basic features you will find in Netscape Navigator and Internet Explorer.

The Browser Window

This is where the Web page is displayed. This window works like any other window on a computer. It can be opened, closed, resized, and moved around on the screen. Scroll bars at the right side and bottom of the window allow you to see parts of a page that are not currently visible (the Page Up and Page Down keys also work in Navigator and Explorer). The title of the current page appears at the top in the window's title bar or at the bottom of the screen.

Scroll bar
Usually a horizontal or vertical bar that contains a box that looks like an elevator in a shaft. Click on the bar to scroll the screen in the corresponding direction, or drag the box in the desired direction.



Scott Foresman Web page (Netscape Navigator)