

Ruby master - Feature #12586

Hash#sample

07/14/2016 07:58 AM - shevegen (Robert A. Heiler)

Status:	Open
Priority:	Normal
Assignee:	
Target version:	
Description	
Hello.	
class Array has .sample method.	
I tried to use .sample on a hash, just to return a random element (I needed to debug this in my key, from a list of hash-kept remote URLs where I will batch download these files via a ruby script).	
To my surprise, class Hash has no .sample. I am not sure why not, perhaps there is some logical reason, but perhaps it may also have been forgotten?	
I am using this code as workaround:	
<pre>hash = { :cat => 'Tom', :mouse => 'Jerry', :dog => 'Spike' }</pre>	
<pre>hash.to_a.sample(1).to_h # => {:mouse=>"Jerry"}</pre>	
<pre>hash.to_a.sample(1).to_h # => {:cat=>"Tom"}</pre>	
This works fine. I could also modify class Hash of course but I rather want to stick to main-ruby (and thus not modify core classes of ruby if I release my code via gems).	
I did not need any argument other than 1 to .sample() since I only needed to obtain one random hash key-value pair.	
If this was already discussed or suggested and rejected, feel free to close this issue request. Thanks!	

History

#1 - 08/10/2016 04:08 AM - shyuhei (Shyouhei Urabe)

We looked at this issue at yesterday's developer meeting. I wonder if this is actually useful. The Tom&Jerry example is too simplistic and we at the meeting could not imagine what "a list of hash-kept remote URLs" that the OP says would look like.

Can you show us a more realistic use-case where this feature is useful?