

How to create, assign, and use temporary variables

Scenario

The XML workflow rule set that you have just created uses a number of values out of the XML file as parameters to various actions in the rule chain. To use the values within an action, the parameters must be retrieved from the **XML Data** object in the **XML Parsed OK** event that resulted from the **Read XML** action. For actions farther down the rule chain such as the **Perform APA** action, the value for the APA instructions parameter requires navigating through several previous event references to get back to the **XML Parsed OK** event, resulting in a long and cumbersome event property reference such as:



APA Instructions → Previous Event (Input File Refined Success And Warn) → Previous Event (Input File Added) → Previous Event (Job Created) → Previous Event (XML Parsed OK) → XML Data (Xml Activity) → APACommand

Temporary variables can be used to simplify these property references. Instead of referencing the values through the previous event chain, the values can be assigned to temporary variables immediately after the **Read XML** action completes and then later in the rule chain the values can be referenced directly.

In this activity, we're going to create, assign, and use temporary variables.

Follow these procedures:

- [Create temporary variables](#)
- [Assign the values from the XML file to the temporary variables](#)
- [Use the temporary variables as action parameters](#)