

# Learning to code using ro-Bots.



# Presentation Overview

- STEM - PBL - Code
- Why learn to code?
- Basic coding terminology
- Bots and Apps.
- Challenges.
- Your turn to code.

# PBL

‘**Project-based learning (PBL)** is an approach to teaching and learning that engages students in rich and authentic...hands-on, interactive learning experiences...

...students gain knowledge and skills by **investigating and responding to an engaging question, problem or challenge.**’

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/curriculum/learning-for-the-future/future-focused-learning-and-teaching/project-based-learning-resource-guide/introducing-project-based-learning>

# STEM



‘STEM is a curriculum based on the idea of educating students in four specific disciplines — **science, technology, engineering** and **mathematics** — in an **interdisciplinary** and applied approach.’

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/curriculum/learning-for-the-future/stem>

# Coding

‘...is a list of **step-by-step instructions** that get computers to do what you want them to do.’

<https://www.learningpotential.gov.au/what-is-coding>

‘... let’s define coding as the basic act of writing – in a programming language – a **script** that a computer can understand.’

<https://www.bitdegree.org/tutorials/what-is-coding/>

*It's '...the new literacy for the  
21st century.'*

*'Coding...'*

*'Computer  
Programming...'*

# Why learn to code?



*It is the future!*

*We need more  
computer scientists!*

# Why learn to code?

*nurtures and expands creative expression*

*teaches causality (cause and effect)*

*teaches problem solving (DEBUG)*

*gives students a challenge and helps them develop resilience and persistence*

*students learn by thinking about doing*



# Why learn to code?



Learning to code teaches children how to **think**. Computer programming isn't just about teaching how to type lines of code. It is more about teaching children how to **think differently**. Being able to code effectively, a programmer needs to use **logical thinking**. They need to be able to **see a large problem** and **break it down** into smaller pieces in order to **solve** it in an effective manner.

This is called **decomposition** and is one of the key features of computational thinking.

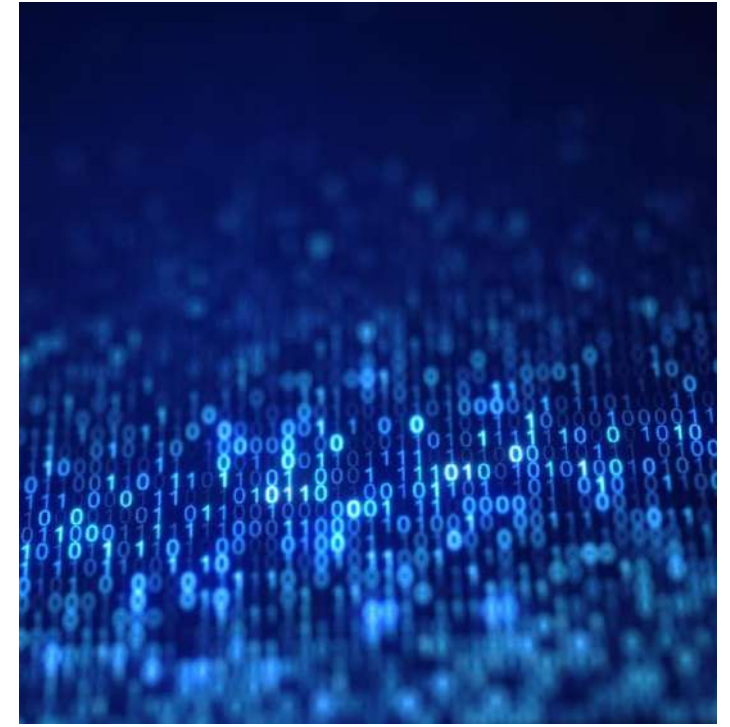
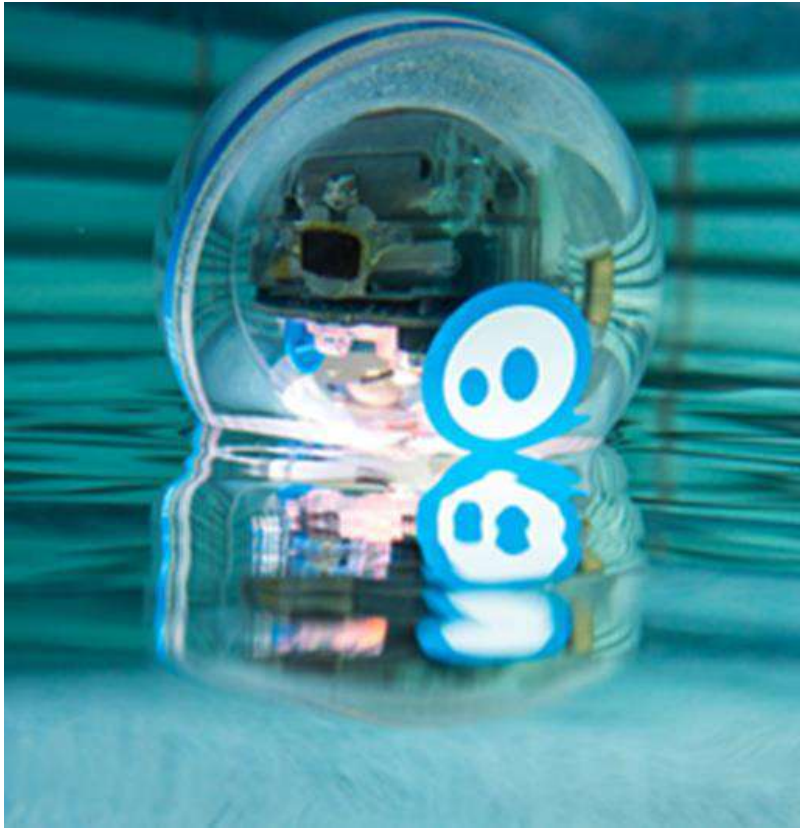
# Computational Thinking

*‘Computational thinking is the **thought processes** involved in formulating a problem and expressing its solution(s) in such a way that a computer – human or machine – can effectively carry out.’*

<http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/learning-areas/technologies/coding-across-the-curriculum>

# How it all started?

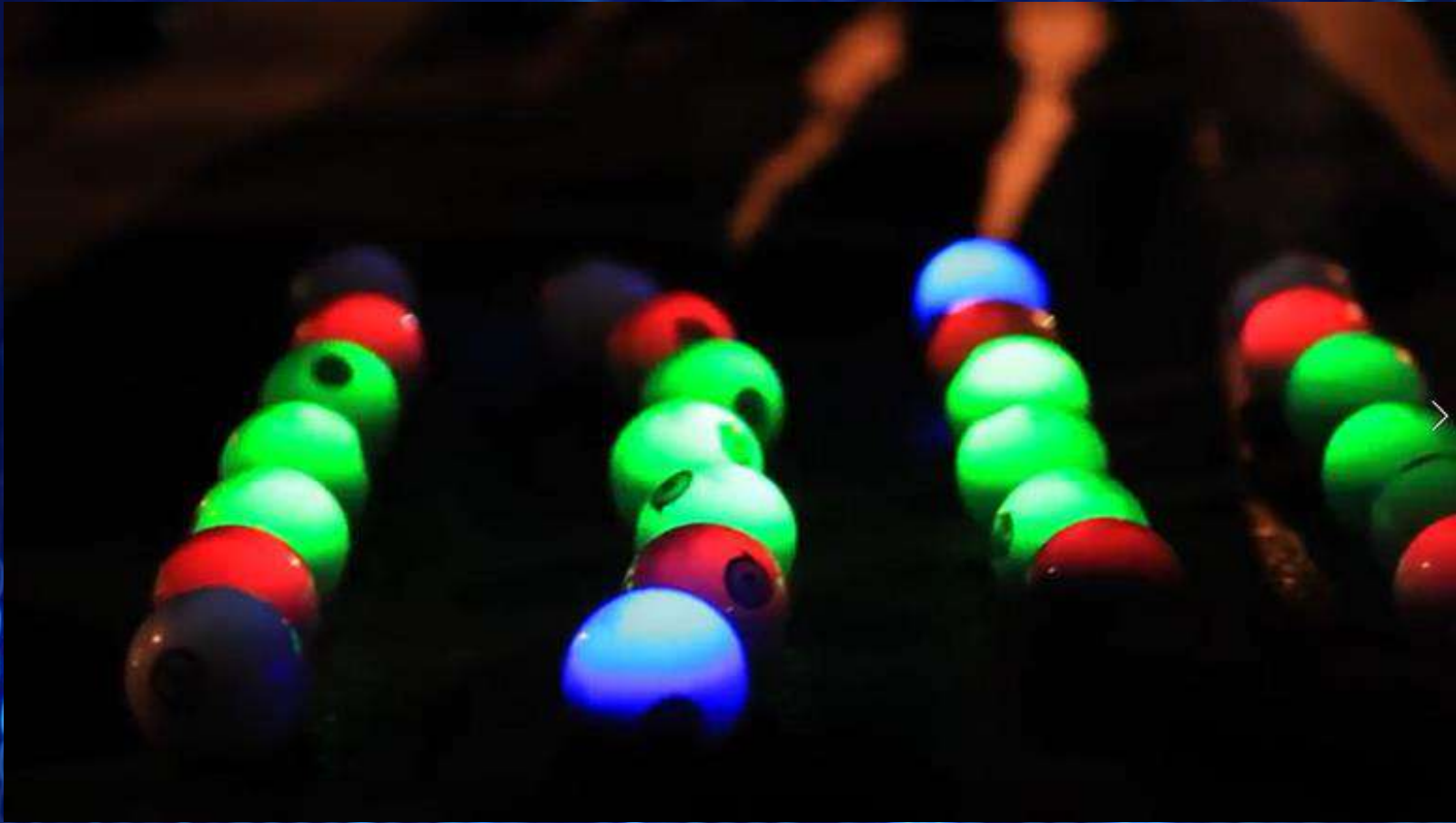




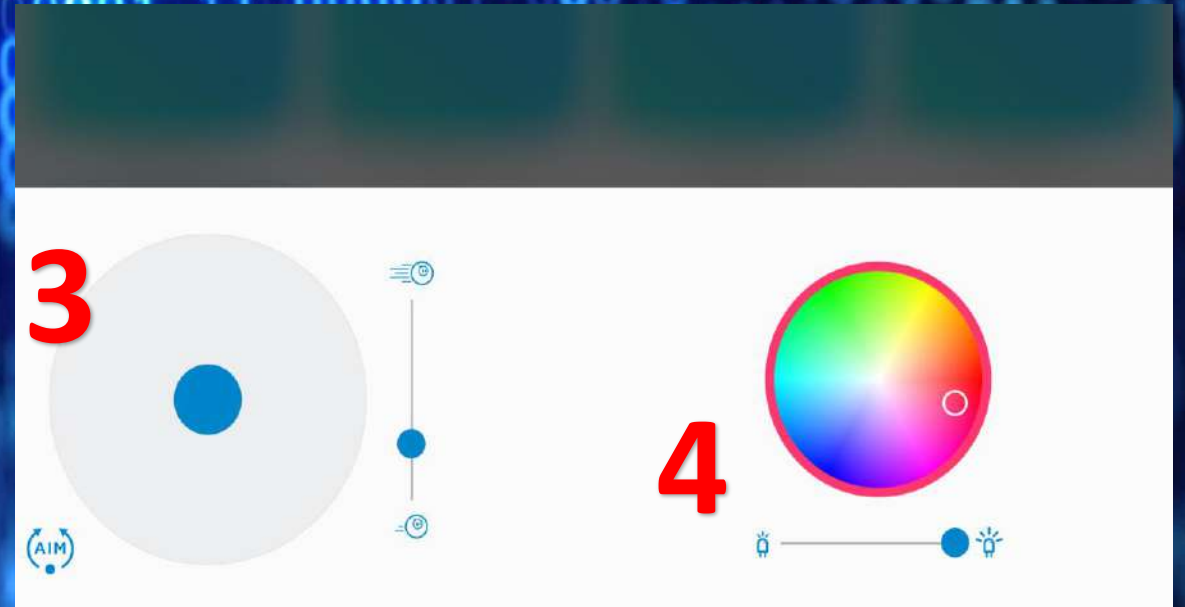
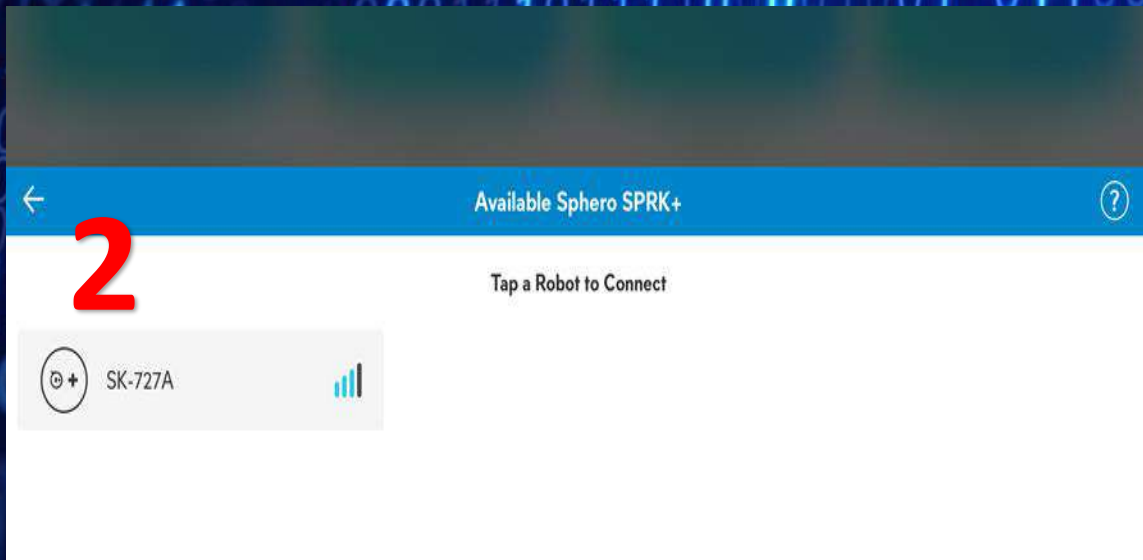
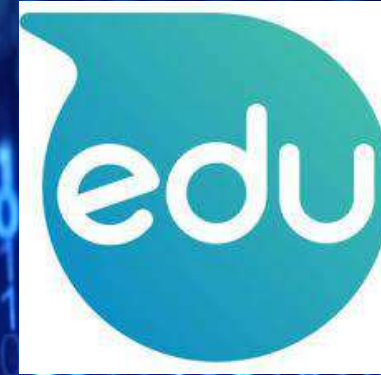
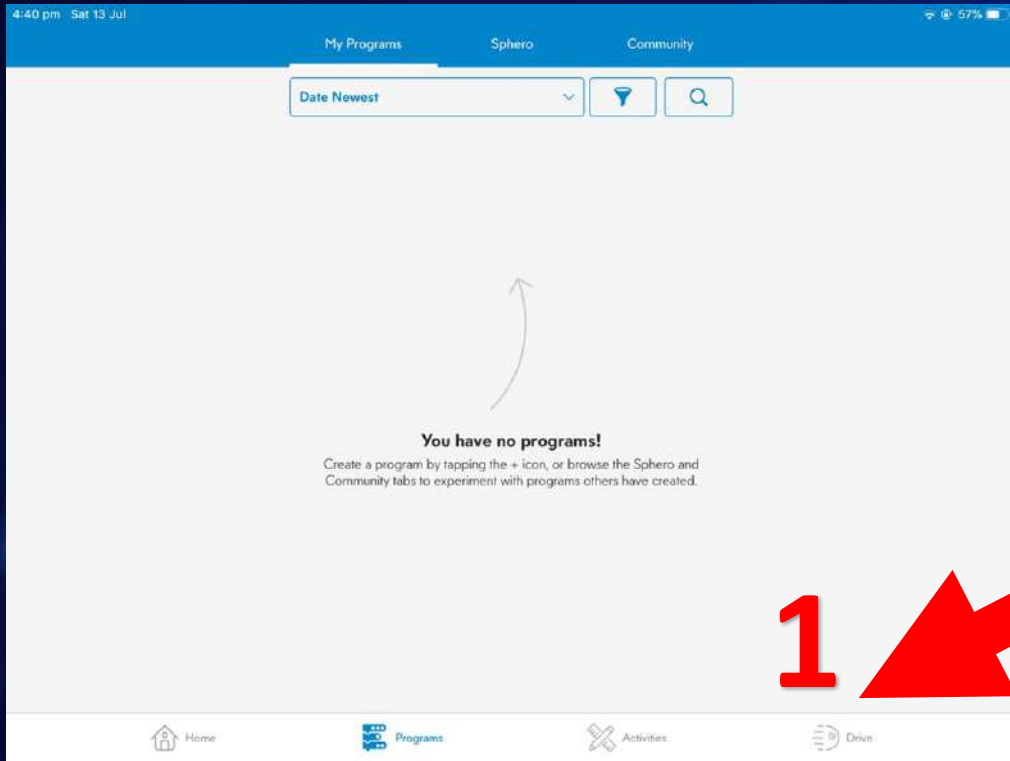
# What is Sphero?

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# VIDEO



# Sphero Basics



Date Newest [Filter] [Search]

You have no programs!

Create a program by tapping the + icon, or browse the Sphero and Community tabs to experiment with programs others have created.



Program Name

Choose Program Type

- Draw
- Blocks
- Text

Choose Compatible Robots

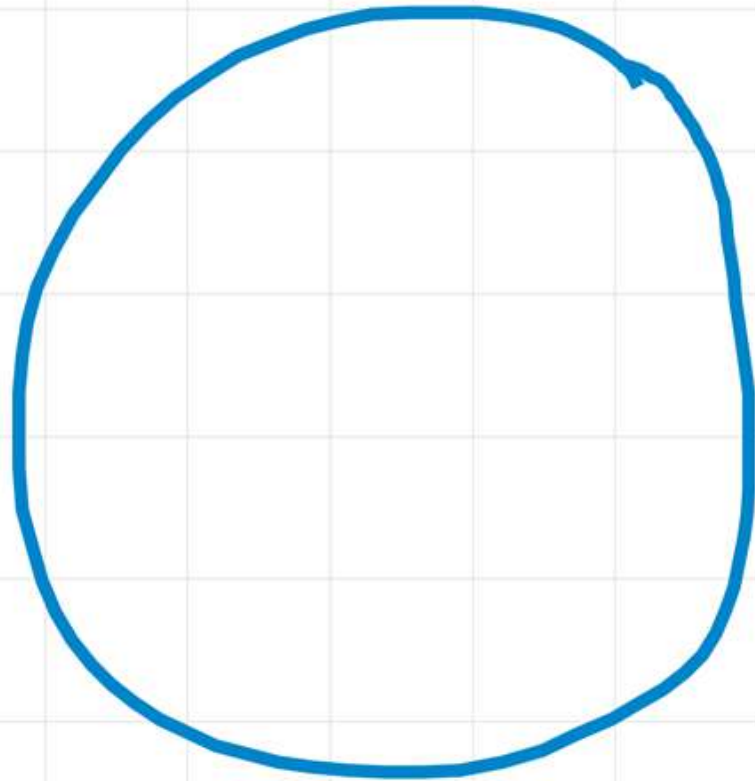
- Sphero BOLT
- Sphero
- Sphero Mini
- Ollie
- BB-8
- BB-9E
- R2-D2
- R2-Q5

Cancel

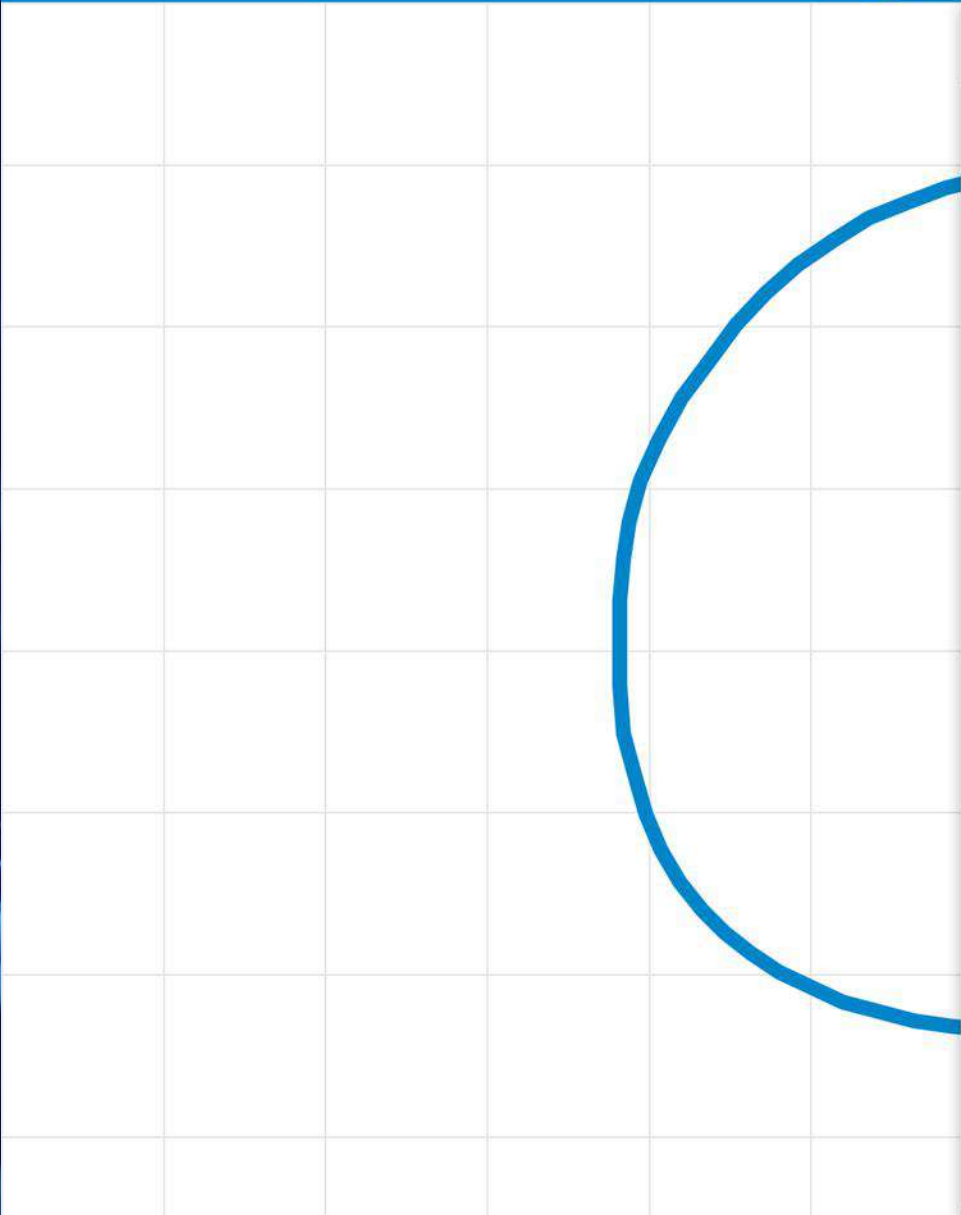
Create



Start







## JavaScript Code



```
1 // Optimized for Sphero
2 async function startProgram() {
3   setMainLed({ r: 0, g: 133, b: 202 });
4   await turn(326);
5   await rollDistance(326, 40, 7);
6   await rollDistance(302, 40, 10);
7   await rollDistance(274, 84, 20);
8   await rollDistance(274, 55, 21);
9   await rollDistance(253, 60, 28);
10  await rollDistance(231, 60, 30);
11  await rollDistance(212, 60, 32);
12  await rollDistance(184, 84, 27);
13  await rollDistance(184, 55, 21);
14  await rollDistance(159, 60, 16);
15  await rollDistance(159, 40, 14);
16  await rollDistance(132, 40, 15);
17  await rollDistance(105, 84, 22);
18  await rollDistance(105, 55, 21);
19  await rollDistance(84, 84, 21);
20  await rollDistance(84, 55, 21);
21  await rollDistance(59, 84, 19);
22  await rollDistance(59, 55, 21);
23  await rollDistance(25, 40, 10);
24  await rollDistance(359, 84, 42);
25  await rollDistance(359, 40, 30);
26  await rollDistance(347, 40, 14);
27  await rollDistance(326, 40, 11);
28  await rollDistance(290, 40, 6);
29  await comeToStop();
30  exitProgram();
31 }
32
33 var MIN_SPEED = 5.0;
34 var minSpeedSq = MIN_SPEED ** 2;
35
```

Copy Code



Program Name

Choose Program Type

Draw Blocks Text

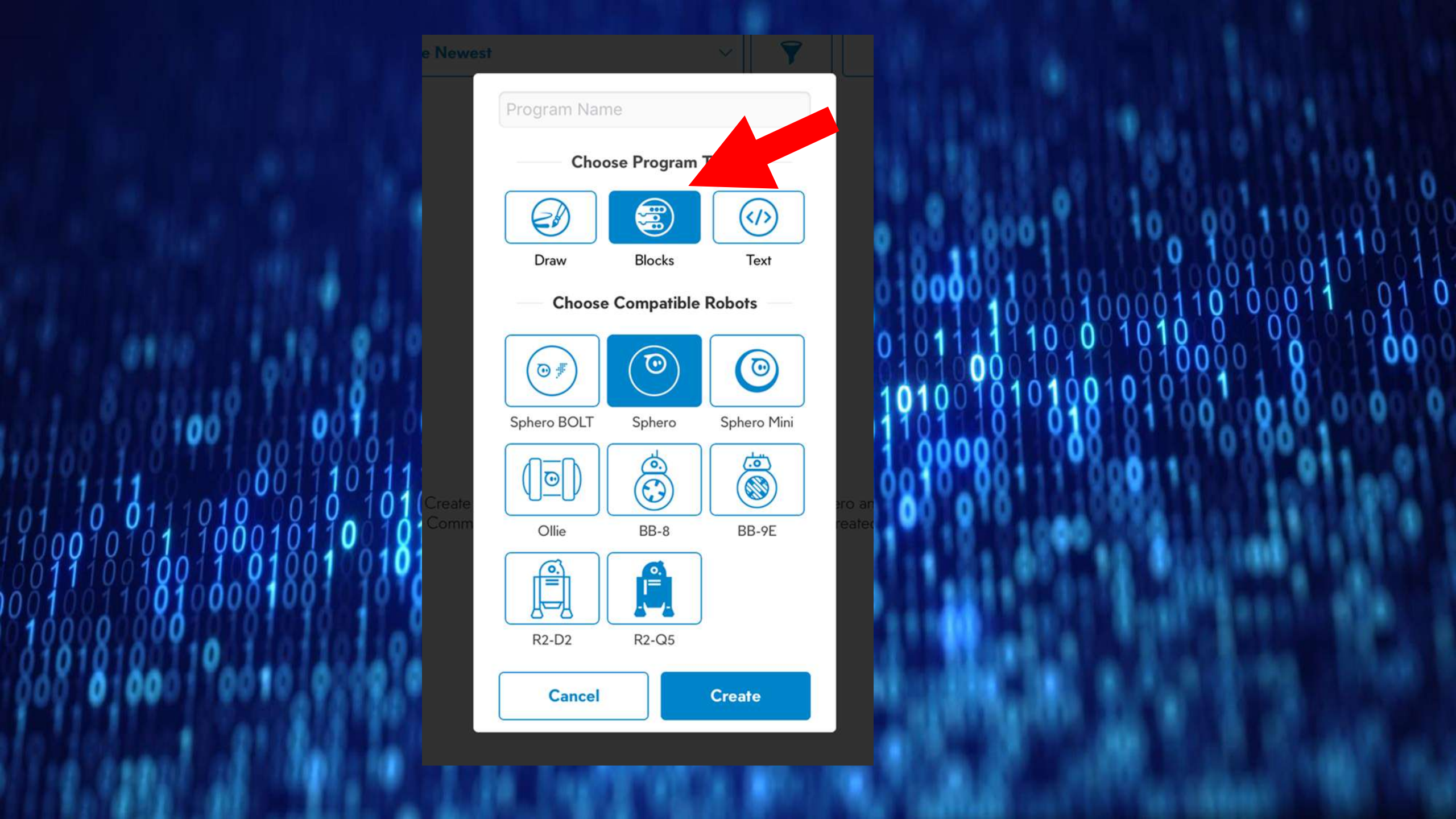

Choose Compatible Robots

Sphero BOLT Sphero Sphero Mini

Ollie BB-8 BB-9E

R2-D2 R2-Q5

Cancel Create





on start program

# The NO JOKE Tool bar



roll 0° at 0 speed for 0s stop speed 0 heading 0° spin 0° for 0s raw motor left 0 right 0 for 0s stabiliz

Movements

Lights

Sounds

Controls

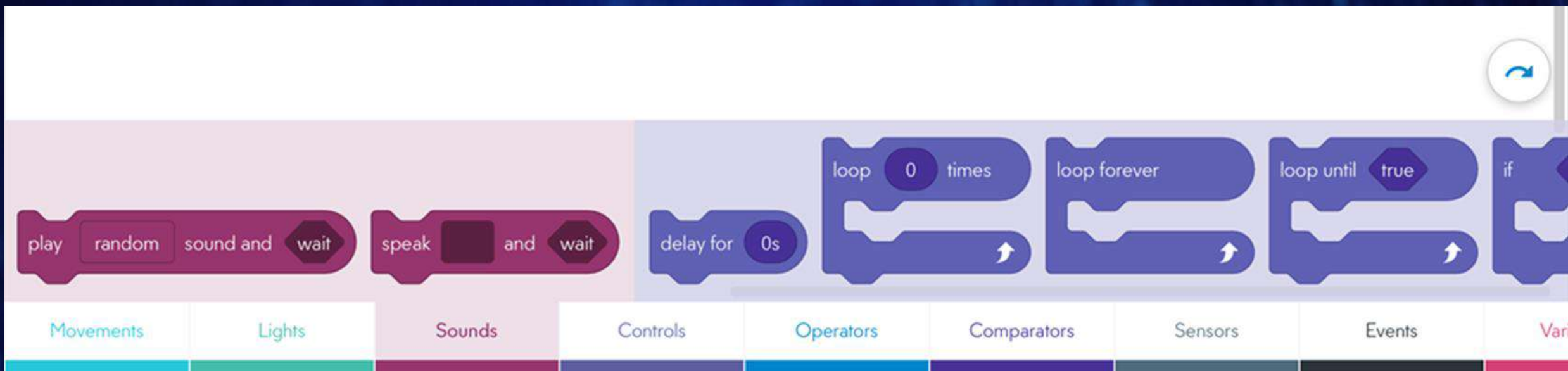
Operators

Comparators

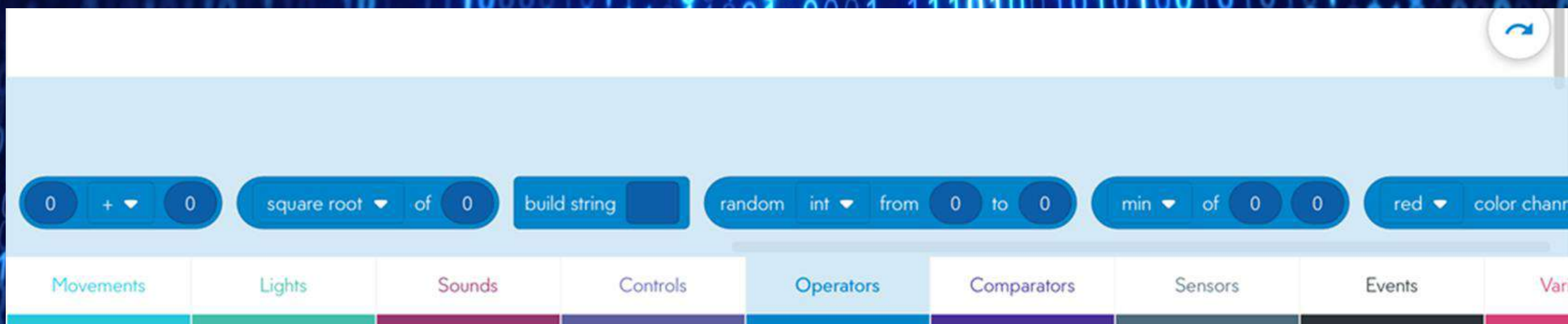
Sensors

Events

Var



The image shows the 'Sounds' palette in Scratch. It features a search bar at the top right with a refresh icon. Below it, there are two rows of sound blocks. The first row contains 'play random sound and wait' and 'speak and wait'. The second row contains 'delay for 0s', 'loop 0 times', 'loop forever', 'loop until true', and 'if'. At the bottom, there is a horizontal menu with tabs for 'Movements', 'Lights', 'Sounds', 'Controls', 'Operators', 'Comparators', 'Sensors', 'Events', and 'Variables'. The 'Sounds' tab is currently selected and highlighted in pink.



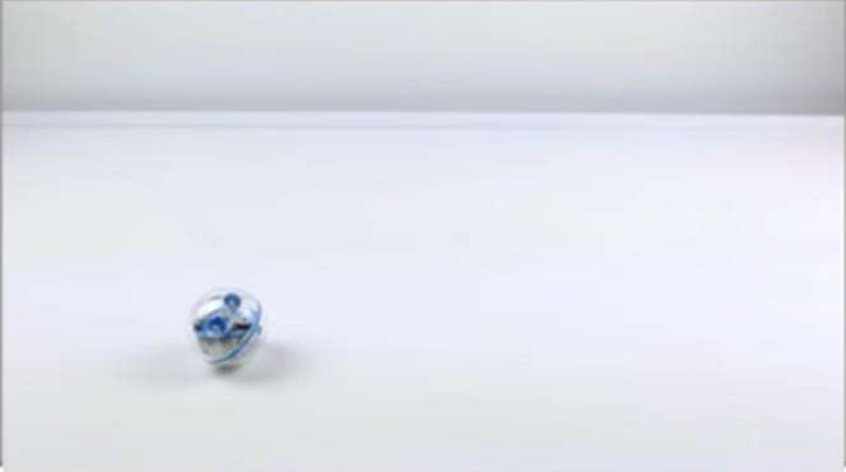
The image shows the 'Operators' palette in Scratch. It features a search bar at the top right with a refresh icon. Below it, there are several operator blocks: '0 + 0', 'square root of 0', 'build string', 'random int from 0 to 0', 'min of 0 0', and 'red color change'. At the bottom, there is a horizontal menu with tabs for 'Movements', 'Lights', 'Sounds', 'Controls', 'Operators', 'Comparators', 'Sensors', 'Events', and 'Variables'. The 'Operators' tab is currently selected and highlighted in light blue.

# Queue

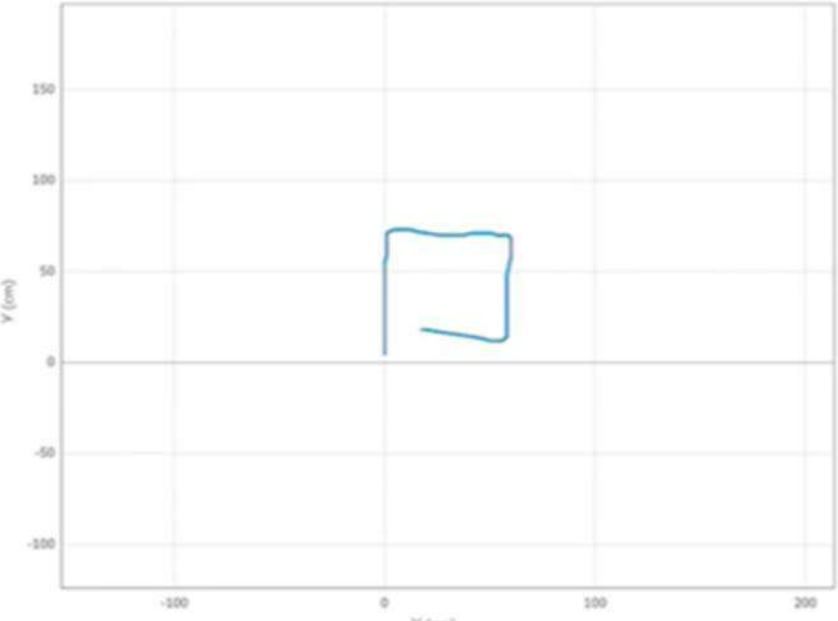


```
on start program
roll 0° at 60 speed for 1s
delay for 1s
roll 90° at 60 speed for 1s
delay for 1s
roll 180° at 60 speed for 1s
delay for 1s
roll 270° at 60 speed for 1s
```

Stop



Location (cm)

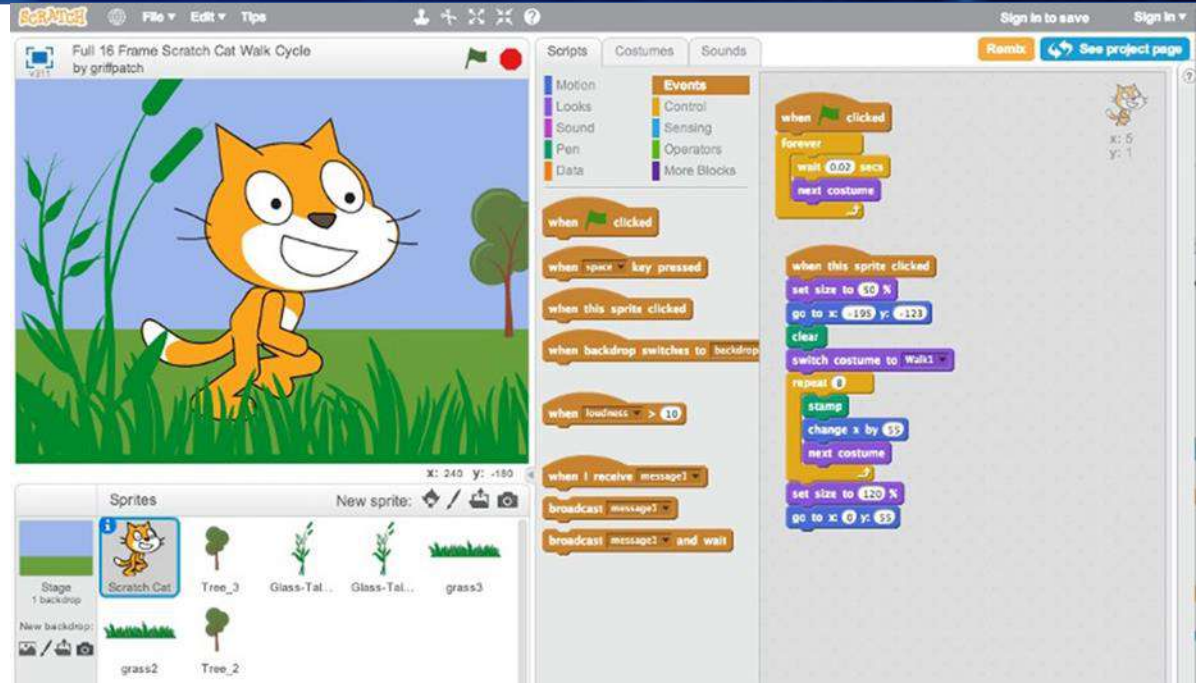


Total Distance: 227.3 cm

▶



<https://www.tynker.com/>



<https://scratch.mit.edu/>



<https://code.org/>

# Coding

# Terminology

# Coding Terminology

**Queue** - how the algorithm is presented  
(a visual schedule)

```
define Invisible Maze
  main LED random color
  roll 0° at 23 speed for 1s
  main LED random color
  roll 270° at 23 speed for 1s
  main LED random color
  roll 0° at 10 speed for 1s
  main LED random color
  roll 90° at 11 speed for 1s
  main LED random color
  roll 270° at 23 speed for 1s
  main LED random color
  roll 90° at 11 speed for 1s
  main LED random color
```





# Coding Terminology

**Algorithm** – a precise set of instructions (each instruction is a coding block)

# Coding Terminology

**Algorithm** – a precise set of instructions (each instruction is a coding block)



stomp  
right leg



stomp  
left leg

# Coding Terminology



stomp  
right leg



stomp  
left leg

# Coding Terminology



stomp  
right leg



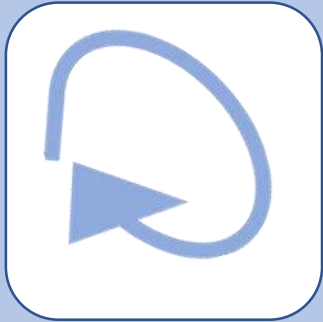
stomp  
left leg

# Coding Terminology



**Loop** – an instruction which is repeated until an indicated point

# Coding Terminology



**Repeat until**



# Coding Terminology



right leg stomp

# Coding Terminology



left leg stomp



# Coding Terminology



right leg stomp

# Coding Terminology



left leg stomp

# Coding Terminology



right leg stomp

# Coding Terminology



left leg stomp

# Coding Terminology



# Coding Terminology



Conditionals - execute different instructions using an 'if' and 'result'

# Coding Terminology



Repeat until



'If' you reach



# Coding Terminology



right leg stomp



# Coding Terminology



left leg stomp

# Coding Terminology

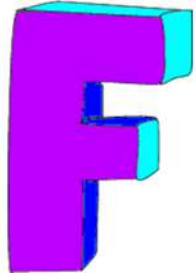


# Coding Terminology



Clap

# Coding Terminology



**Function** – a section in a program which performs a specific task (one coding block can represent multiple instructions)

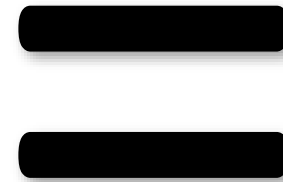
# Coding Terminology



Repeat until



'If' you reach



# Coding Terminology



or



# Where to next?



# Blue Bot

- 240 commands
- rechargeable
- network capability (Bluetooth)
- two apps compatible with iOS and Android  
(*Blue Bot and Blue Bot Remote*)
- Blue Bot app allows for 45 degree turns and algorithm edits
- controlled with push buttons, tactile reader or apps





# Blue Bot Push Buttons

Move Forward

Turn Right

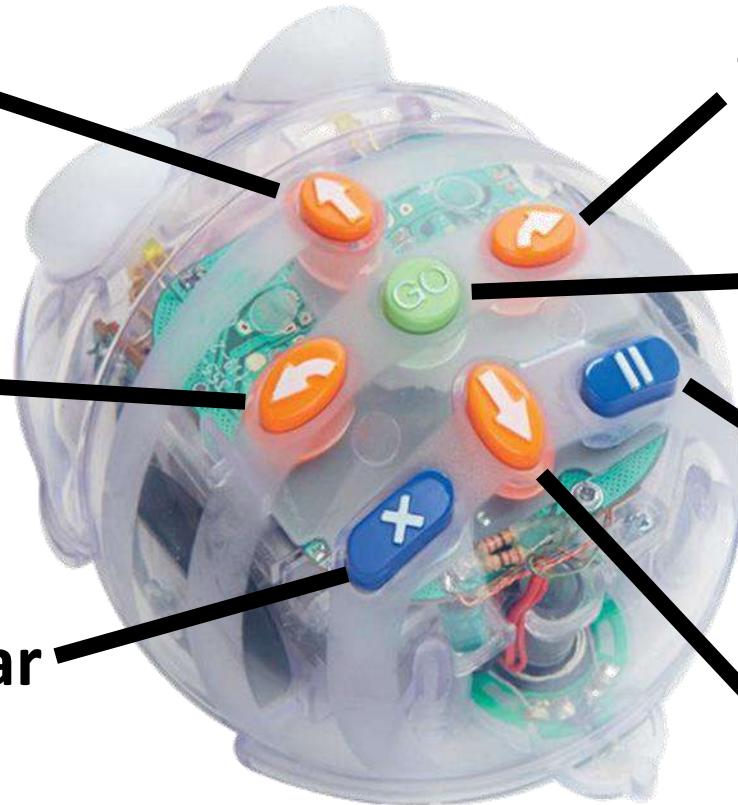
Go

Turn Left

Pause

Clear

Move Backward

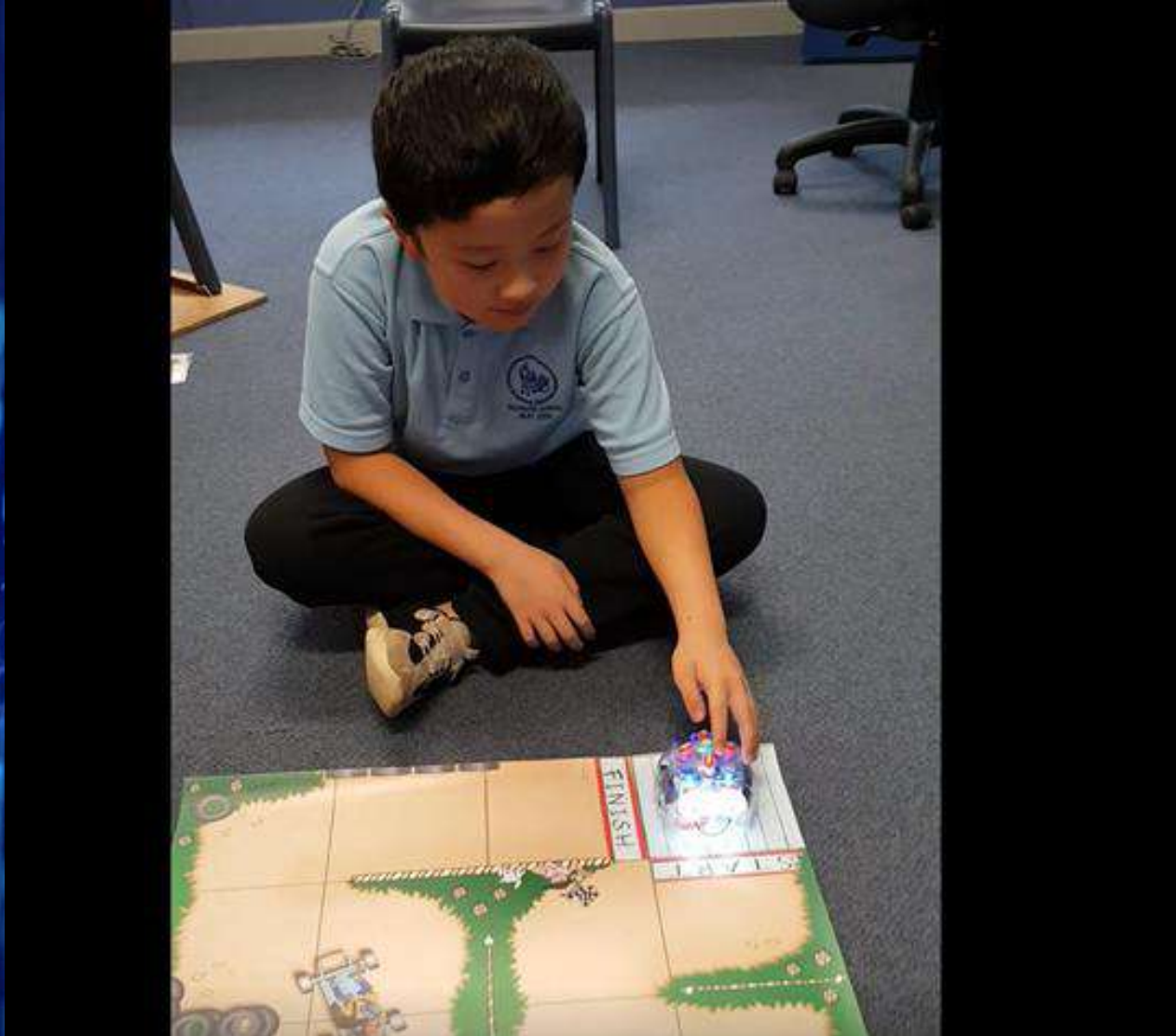


Underneath the Blue-bot

Power – On/Off

Sound – On/Off

# VIDEO



# Blue Bot Tactile Reader

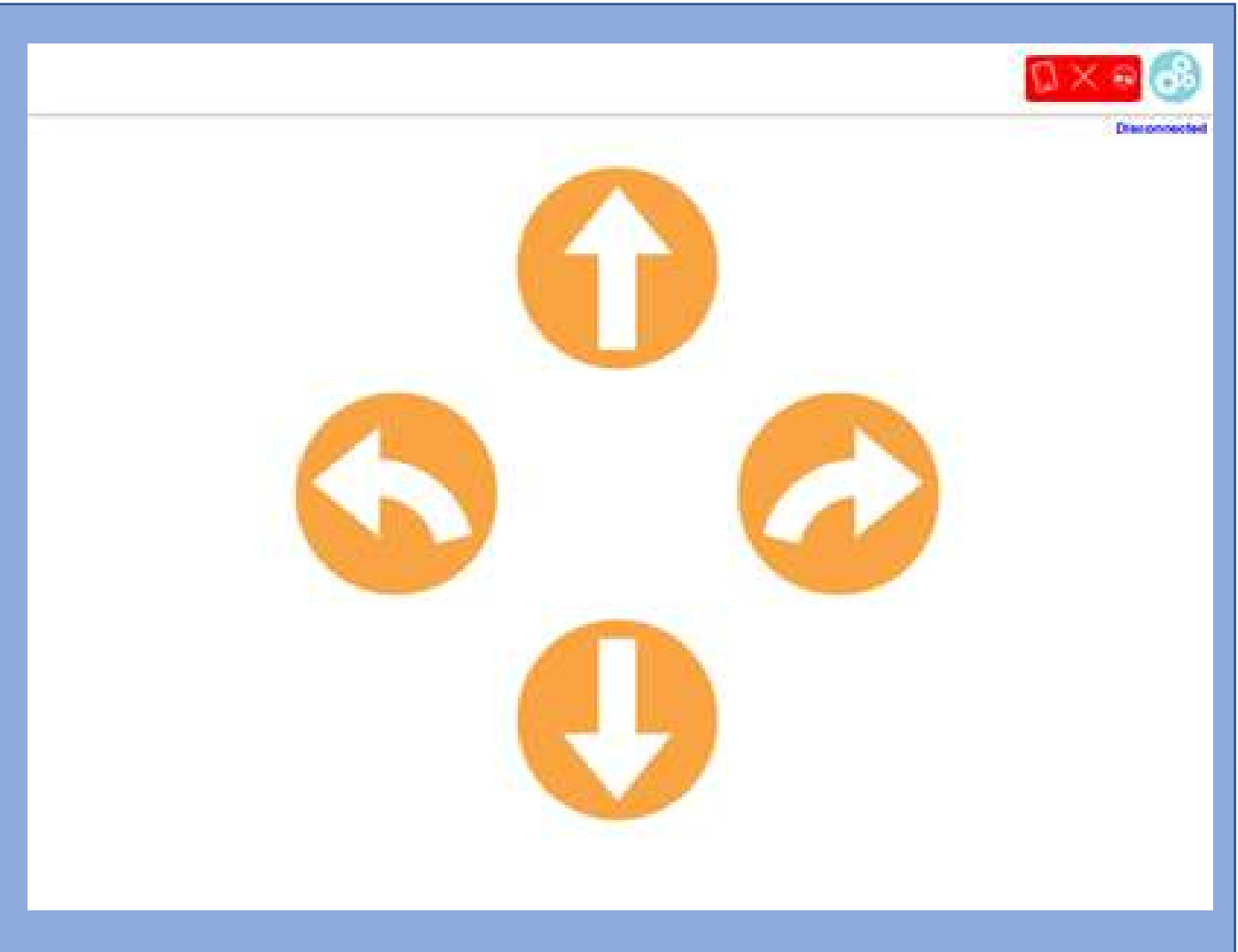


# Blue Bot Apps



Remote

# Blue Bot Remote



# VIDEO



# Blue Bot App



tap for GRID SELECTION

save grids

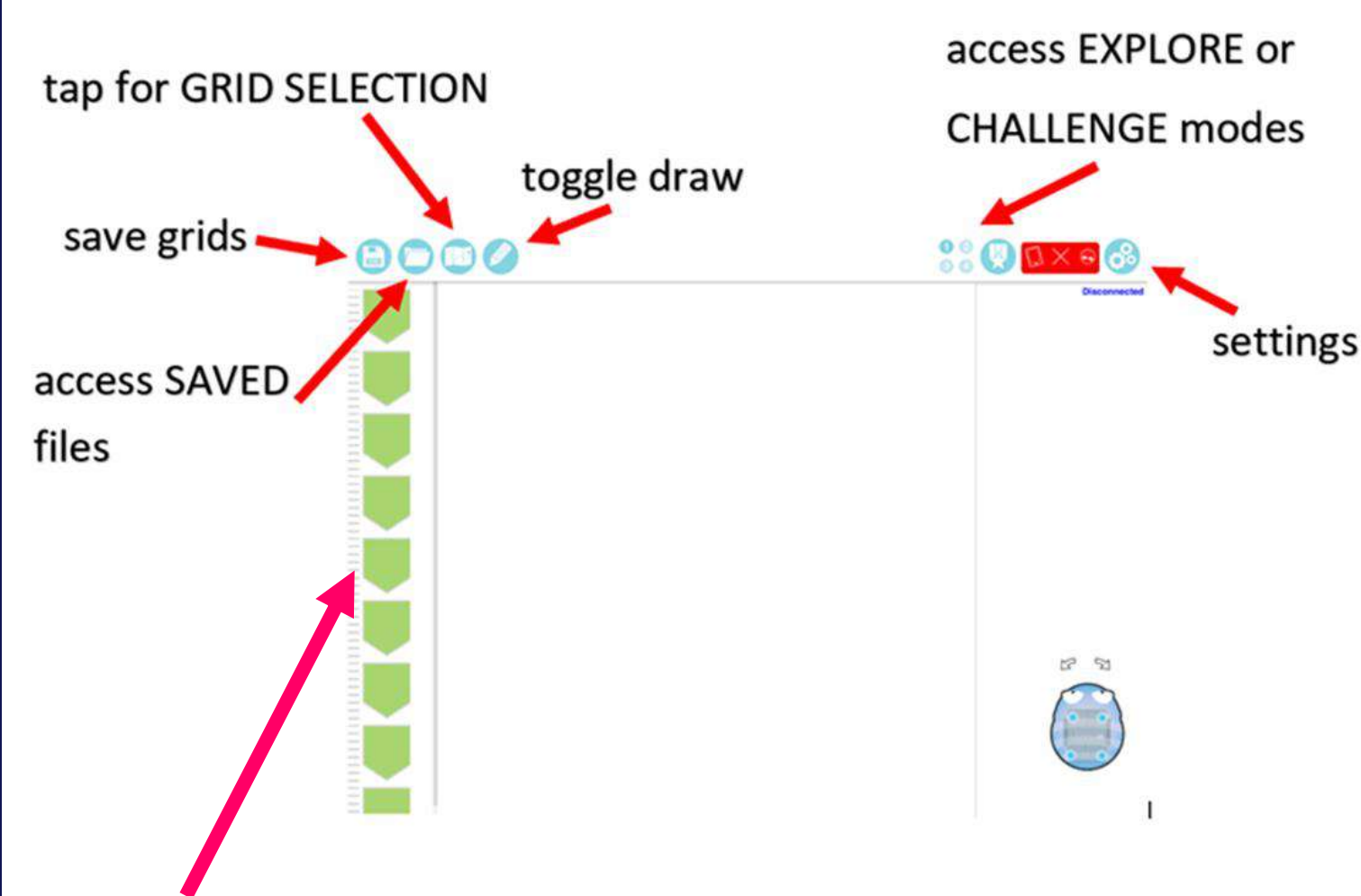
toggle draw

access EXPLORE or  
CHALLENGE modes

access SAVED  
files

settings

*Vertical QUEUE*



# Blue Bot App

Choose from PRE EXISTING GRIDS / MAPS.



tap for  
SAVED FILE

tap for CAMERA



# Blue Bot App

for use **with** Blue Bot -  
EXPLORE MODE

for use **without** Blue Bot -  
CHALLENGE MODE

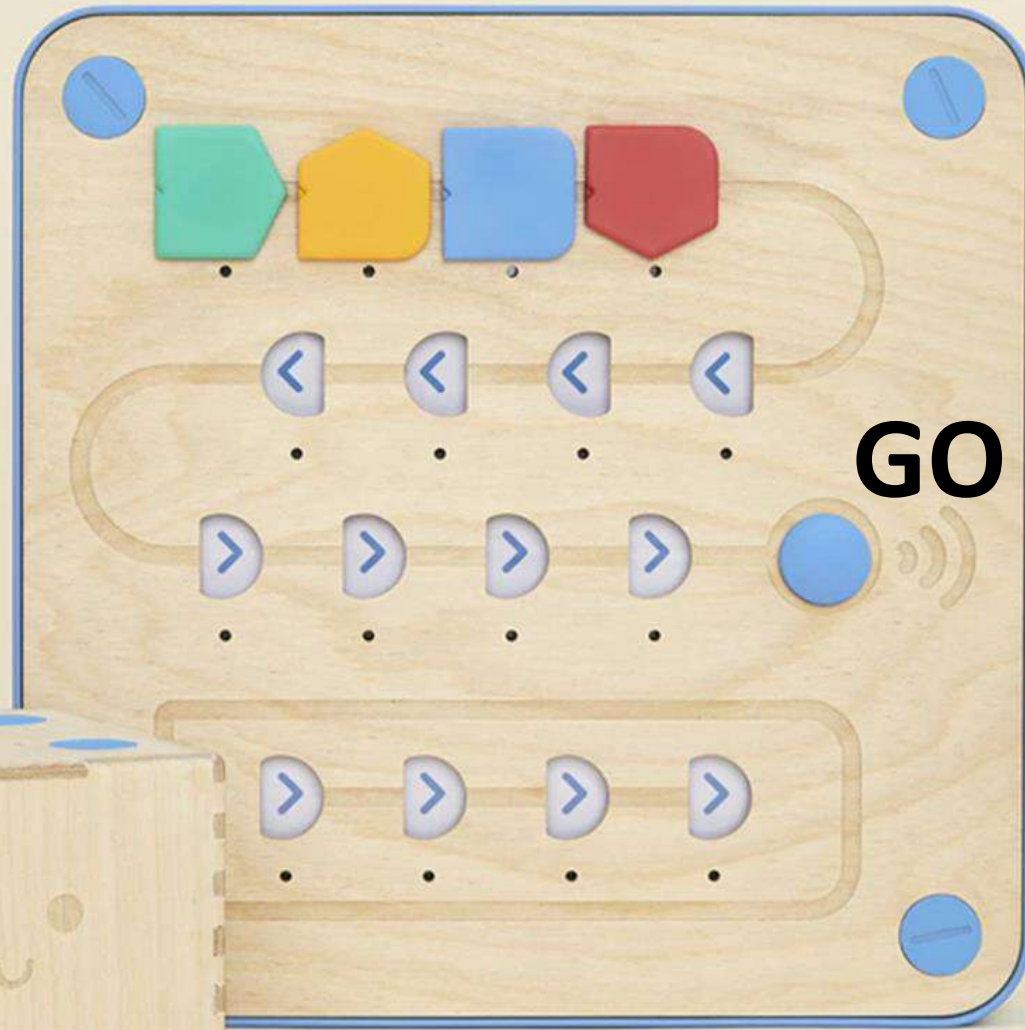


Disconnected





**Story Book  
and Map**



**Control  
Board**

**GO**

**Cubetto**



**Coding  
Blocks**



# Coding Blocks

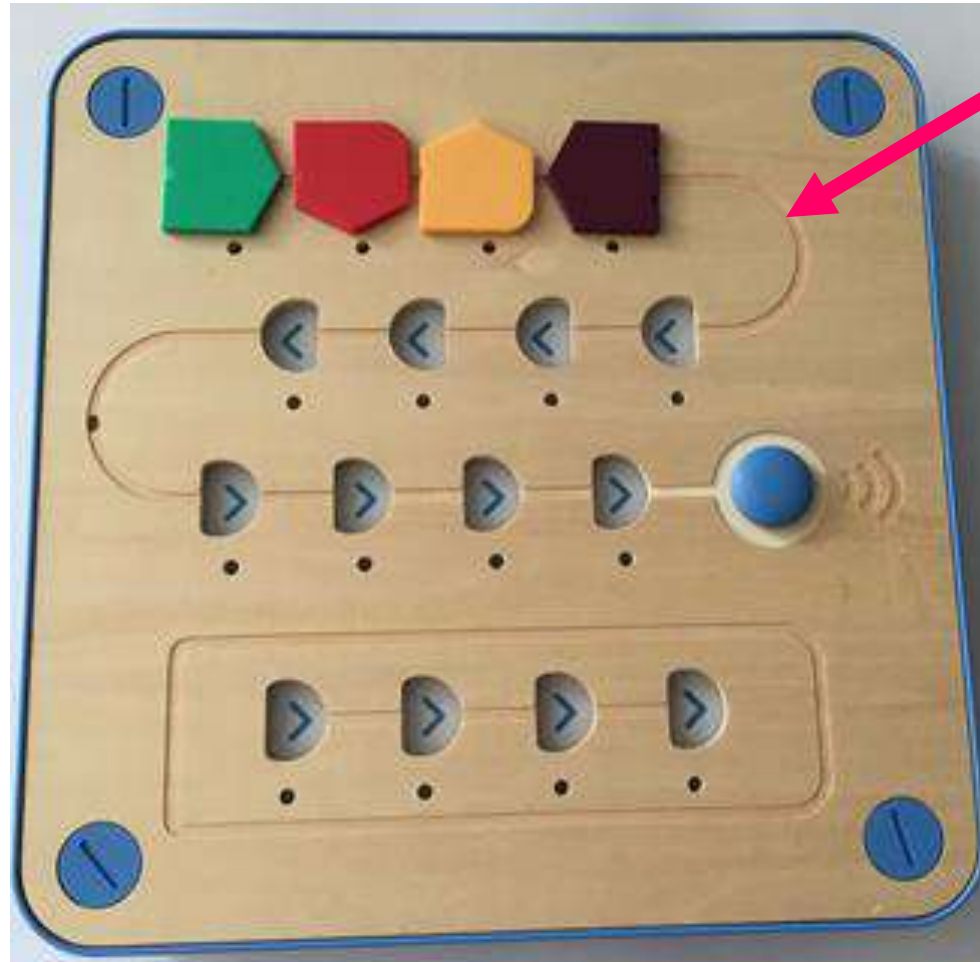
**GREEN** – forward

**RED** – right

**YELLOW** – left

**PURPLE** - backward

*Snake-like QUEUE*



# VIDEO

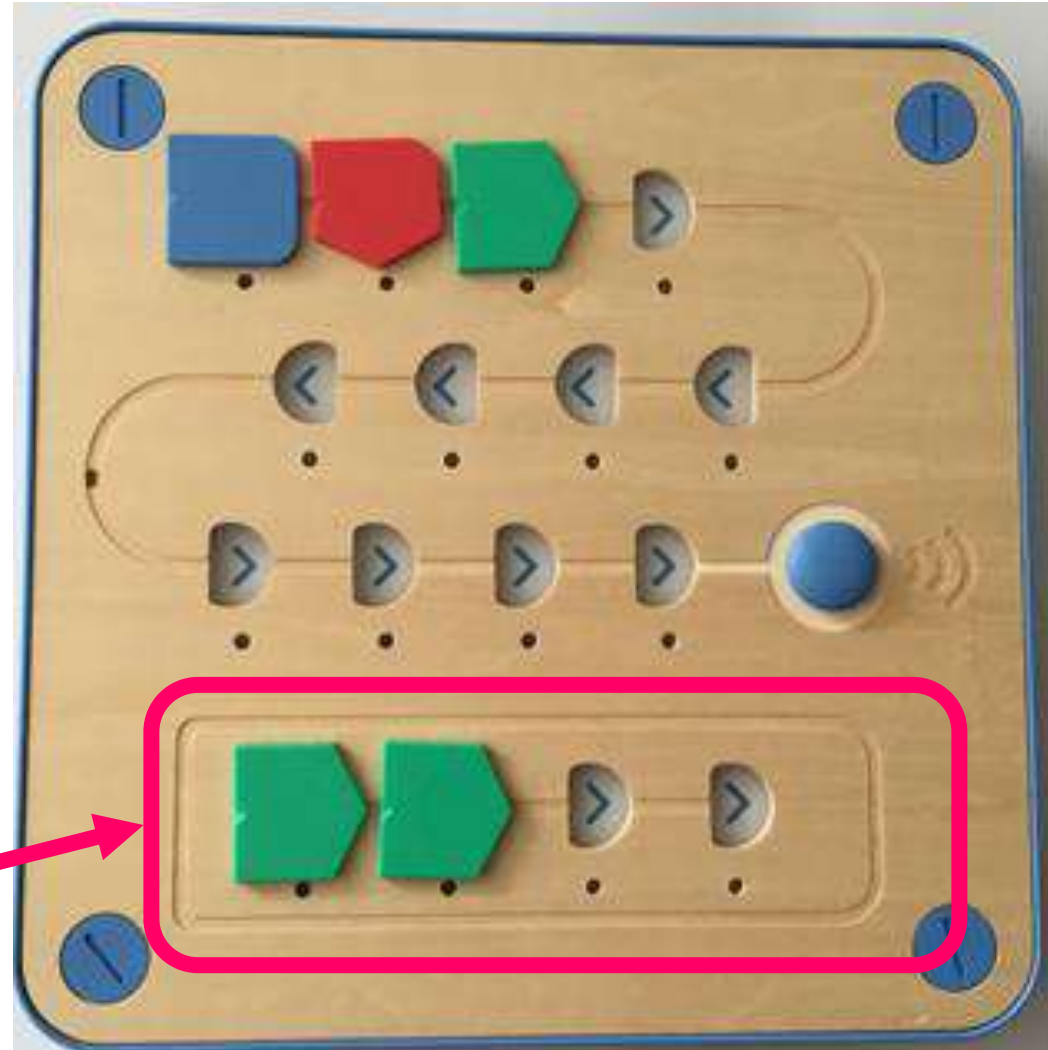


# Function Block

## BLUE - function

The **FUNCTION** block allows for **multiple** steps to be executed.

The steps to be executed are decided by the blocks placed on the **FUNCTION LINE**.



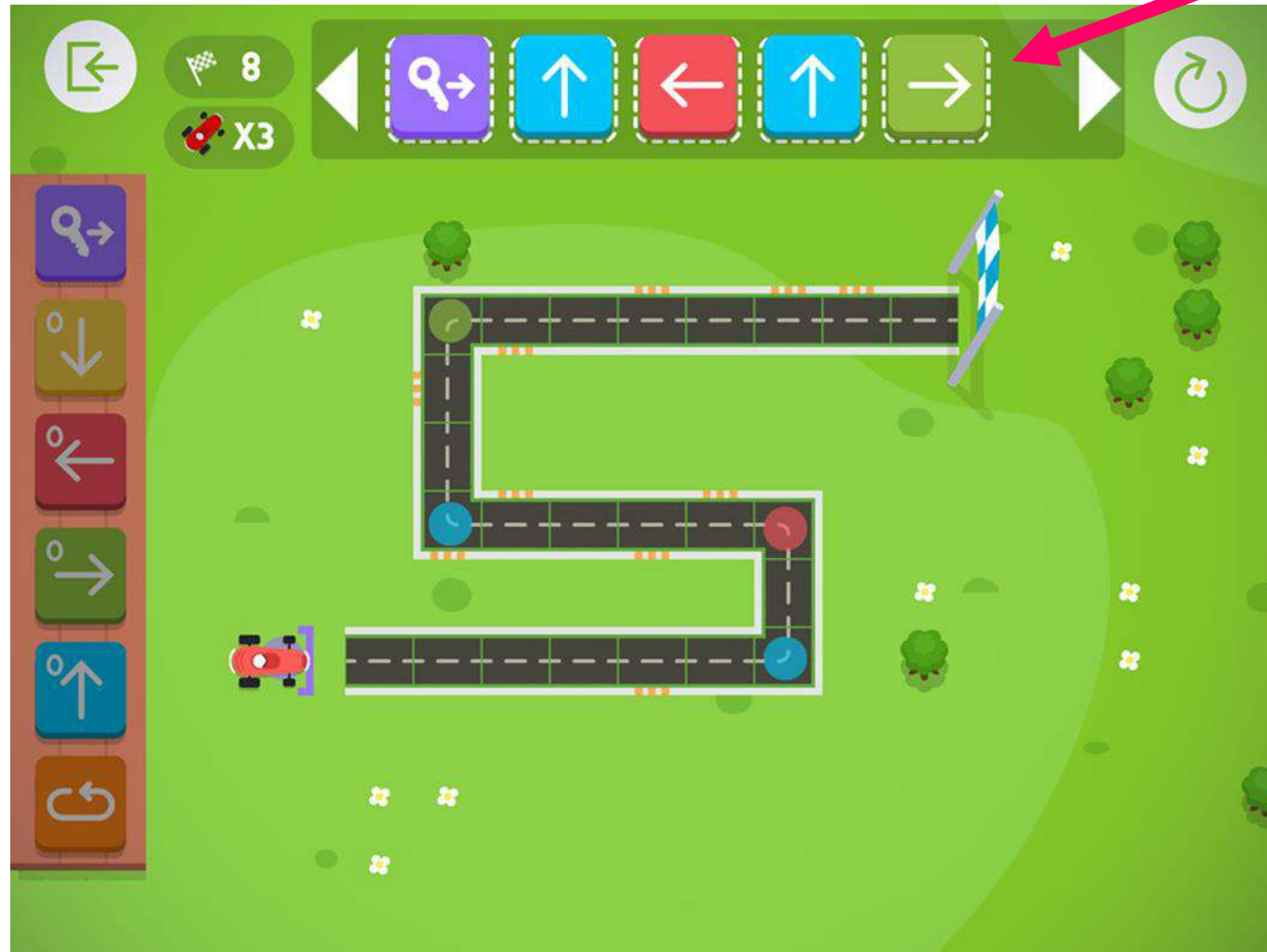
# VIDEO





# DRAG and DROP to *Horizontal QUEUE*

**FORWARD**  
**DOWN**  
**LEFT**  
**RIGHT**  
**UP**





# VIDEO



# Box Island





Select

# Levels



Loops

Conditionals

Basic  
code

PLAY

# VIDEO

## Basic code



# VIDEO

## Loops



# The Australian Curriculum: Digital Technologies (F-10) comprises two related strands:

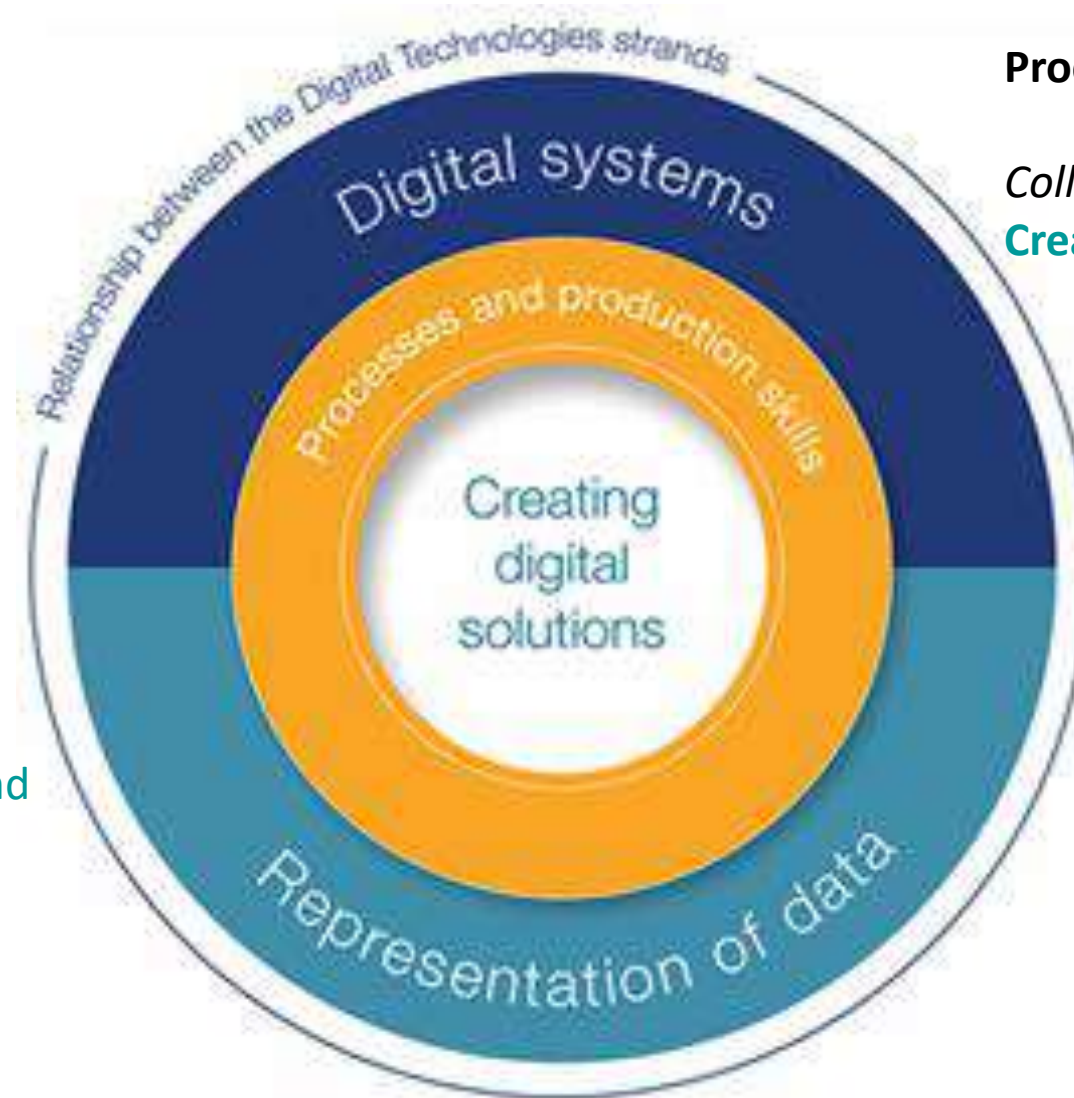
## Knowledge and understanding

### Digital systems

- the components of digital systems: hardware, software and networks and their use

### Representation of data

- how data are represented and structured symbolically



## Processes and production skills

*Collecting, managing and analysing data*

### Creating digital solutions by:

- investigating and defining
- generating and designing
- producing and implementing
- evaluating
- collaborating and managing

**Digital Technologies: Sequence of content**

	F-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-10 (Elective subject)
Digital systems	Recognise and explore digital systems (hardware and software components) for a purpose (ACTDIK001)	Identify and explore a range of digital systems with peripheral devices for different purposes, and transmit different types of data (ACTDIK007)	Determine the main components of common digital systems and how they may connect together to form networks to transmit data (ACTDIK014)	Investigate how data is transmitted and secured in wired, wireless and mobile networks, and how the specifications affect performance (ACTDIK023)	Investigate the role of hardware and software in managing, controlling and securing the movement of and access to data in networked digital systems (ACTDIK034)
Representation of data	Recognise and explore patterns in data and represent data as pictures, symbols and diagrams (ACTDIK002)	Recognise and explore how the same data can be represented in different ways (ACTDIK008)	Examine how whole numbers are used to represent all data in digital systems (ACTDIK015)	Investigate how digital systems represent text, image and audio data in binary (ACTDIK024)	Analyse simple compression of data and how content data are separated from presentation (ACTDIK035)

Identify and explore a range of digital systems with peripheral devices for different purposes **(ACTDIK007)**

**Digital Technologies: Sequence of content F-10 Strand: Processes and production skills**

	F-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-10 (Elective subject)
Collecting, managing and analysing data	Collect, explore and sort data, and use digital systems to present the data creatively (ACTDIP003)	Collect, describe and present different types of data using simple software to create information and solve problems (ACTDIP009)	Acquire, store and validate different types of data, and use a range of software to interpret and visualise data to create information (ACTDIP016)	Acquire data from a range of sources and evaluate authenticity, accuracy and timeliness (ACTDIP025) Analyse and visualise data using a range of software to create information, and use structured data to model objects or events (ACTDIP026)	Develop techniques for acquiring, storing and validating quantitative and qualitative data from a range of sources, considering privacy and security requirements (ACTDIP036) Analyse and visualise data to create information and address complex problems, and model processes, entities and their relationships using structured data (ACTDIP037)
Investigating and defining problems	Follow, describe and represent a sequence of steps and decisions (algorithms) needed to solve simple problems (ACTDIP004)	Define simple problems, and describe and follow a sequence of steps and decisions (algorithms) needed to solve simple problems (ACTDIP010)	Define problems in terms of data and functional requirements drawing on previously solved problems (ACTDIP017)	Define and decompose real-world problems taking into account functional requirements and economic, environmental, social, technical and usability constraints (ACTDIP027)	Define and decompose real-world problems precisely, taking into account functional and non-functional requirements and including interviewing stakeholders to identify needs (ACTDIP038)

Recognise and explore patterns in data and represent data as pictures, symbols and diagrams **(ACTDIK002)**

**Digital Technologies: Sequence of content F-10 Strand: Processes and production skills**

	F-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-10 (Elective subject)
Generating and designing			Design a user interface for a digital system (ACTDIP018) Design, modify and follow simple algorithms involving sequences of steps, branching, and iteration (repetition) (ACTDIP019)	Design the user experience of a digital system, generating, evaluating and communicating alternative designs (ACTDIP028) Design algorithms represented diagrammatically and in English, and trace algorithms to predict output for a given input and to identify errors (ACTDIP029)	Design the user experience of a digital system by evaluating alternative designs against criteria including functionality, accessibility, usability, and aesthetics (ACTDIP039) Design algorithms represented diagrammatically and in structured English and validate algorithms and programs through tracing and test cases (ACTDIP040)
Producing and implementing		Implement simple digital solutions as visual programs with algorithms involving branching (decisions) and user input (ACTDIP011)	Implement digital solutions as simple visual programs involving branching, iteration (repetition), and user input (ACTDIP020)	Implement and modify programs with user interfaces involving branching, iteration and user input in a general-purpose programming language (ACTDIP032)	Implement modular programs, applying selected algorithms and data structures including using an object-oriented programming language (ACTDIP041)
Evaluating	Explore how people safely use common information systems to meet information, personal, school or community needs (ACTDIP005)	Explain how student solutions and existing information systems meet common personal, school or community needs (ACTDIP012)	Explain how student solutions and existing information systems are sustainable and meet current and future local community needs (ACTDIP021)	Evaluate how student solutions and existing information systems meet needs, are innovative, and take account of future risks and sustainability (ACTDIP031)	Evaluate critically how student solutions and existing information systems and policies, take account of future risks and sustainability (ACTDIP042) Identify opportunities for innovation (ACTDIP043)
Collaborating and managing	Create and organise ideas and information using information systems independently and with others, and share these with known people in safe online environments (ACTDIP006)	Plan, create and communicate ideas and information independently and with others, applying agreed ethical and social protocols (ACTDIP013)	Plan, create and communicate ideas and information, including collaboratively online, applying agreed ethical, social and technical protocols (ACTDIP022)	Plan and manage projects that create and communicate ideas and information collaboratively online, taking safety and social contexts into account (ACTDIP032)	Create interactive solutions for sharing ideas and information online, taking into account safety, social contexts and legal responsibilities (ACTDIP043) Plan and manage projects using an iterative and collaborative approach, identifying risks and considering safety and sustainability (ACTDIP044)

Follow, describe and represent a sequence of steps and decisions (algorithms) needed to solve simple problems **(ACTDIP004)**



Digital Technologies: Sequence of content F-10 Strand: Knowledge and understanding

	F-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-10 (Elective subject)
Digital systems	Recognise and explore digital systems (hardware and software components) for a purpose (ACTDIK001)	Identify and explore a range of digital systems with peripheral devices for different purposes, and explain how they are used (ACTDIK007)	Examine the main components of common digital systems and how they may connect together to form networks to transmit data (ACTDIK014)	Investigate how data is transmitted and secured in wired, wireless networks, and how network specifications affect performance (ACTDIK023)	Investigate the role of hardware and software in managing, controlling and securing the movement of and access to data in networked digital systems (ACTDIK034)
Representation of data	Recognise and explore patterns in data and represent data using pictures, symbols and diagrams (ACTDIK002)	Recognise different types of data and explore how the same data can be represented in different ways (ACTDIK008)	Examine how whole numbers are used to represent all data in digital systems (ACTDIK015)	Investigate how digital systems represent text, image and audio data in binary (ACTDIK024)	Analyse simple compression of data and how content data are separated from presentation (ACTDIK035)

Recognise different types of data and explore how the same data can be represented in different ways (ACTDIK008)

Digital Technologies: Sequence of content F-10 Strand: Processes and production skills

	F-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-10 (Elective subject)
Collecting, managing and analysing data	Collect, explore and sort data, and use digital systems to present the data creatively (ACTDIP003)	Collect, access and present different types of data using simple software to create information and solve problems (ACTDIP009)	Acquire, store and validate different types of data, and use a range of software to interpret and visualise data to create information (ACTDIP016)	Acquire data from a range of sources and evaluate authenticity, accuracy and timeliness (ACTDIP025) Analyse and visualise data using a range of software to create information, and use structured data to model objects or events (ACTDIP026)	Develop techniques for acquiring, storing and validating quantitative and qualitative data from a range of sources, considering privacy and security requirements (ACTDIP036) Analyse and visualise data to create information and address complex problems, and model processes, entities and their relationships using structured data (ACTDIP037)
Investigating and defining	Follow, describe and represent a sequence of steps and decisions (algorithms) needed to solve simple problems (ACTDIP004)	Define simple problems, and describe and follow a sequence of steps and decisions (algorithms) needed to solve them (ACTDIP010)	Define problems in terms of data and functions, and solve previously solved problems (ACTDIP017)	Define problems taking into account functional requirements and economic, environmental, social, technical and usability constraints (ACTDIP027)	Define and decompose real-world problems precisely, taking into account functional and non-functional requirements and including interviewing stakeholders to identify needs (ACTDIP038)

Define simple problems, and describe and follow a sequence of steps and decisions (algorithms) needed to solve them (ACTDIP010)

Digital Technologies: Sequence of content F-10 Strand: Processes and production skills

	F-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-10 (Elective subject)
Generating and designing			Design a simple system (ACTDIP019) Design, modify and follow simple algorithms involving sequences of steps, branching, and iteration (repetition) (ACTDIP019)	Design the user experience of a digital system, generating, evaluating and communicating alternative designs (ACTDIP028) Design algorithms represented diagrammatically and in English, and trace algorithms to predict output for a given input and to identify errors (ACTDIP029)	Design the user experience of a digital system by evaluating alternative designs against criteria including functionality, accessibility, usability, and aesthetics (ACTDIP039) Design algorithms represented diagrammatically and in structured English and validate algorithms and programs through tracing and test cases (ACTDIP040)
Producing and implementing		Implement simple digital solutions as visual programs with algorithms involving branching (decisions) and user input (ACTDIP011)	Implement digital solutions as simple visual programs involving branching, iteration (repetition), and user input (ACTDIP025)	Implement and modify programs with user interfaces involving branching, iteration and functions in a general-purpose programming language (ACTDIP030)	Implement modular programs, applying selected algorithms and data structures including using an object-oriented programming language (ACTDIP041)
Evaluating	Explore how people safely use common information systems to meet information, communication and recreation needs (ACTDIP005)	Explain how student solutions and existing information systems meet common personal, school or community needs (ACTDIP012)	Explain how student solutions and existing information systems are sustainable and meet current and future local community needs (ACTDIP021)	Evaluate how student solutions and existing information systems meet needs, are innovative, and take account of future risks and sustainability (ACTDIP031)	Evaluate how student solutions and existing information systems meet needs, take account of future risks and sustainability and provide opportunities for innovation and enterprise (ACTDIP042)
Collaborating and managing	Create and organise ideas and information using information systems independently and with others, and share these with known people in safe online environments (ACTDIP006)	Plan, create and communicate ideas and information collaboratively and with others, applying agreed ethical and social protocols (ACTDIP013)	Plan, create and communicate ideas and information, including collaboratively online, applying agreed ethical, social and technical protocols (ACTDIP022)	Plan and manage projects that create and communicate ideas and information collaboratively online, taking safety and social responsibilities into account (ACTDIP032)	Create interactive solutions for sharing ideas and information online, taking into account safety, social contexts and legal responsibilities (ACTDIP043) Plan and manage projects using an iterative and collaborative approach, identifying risks and considering safety and sustainability (ACTDIP044)

Design, modify and follow simple algorithms involving sequences of steps, branching, and iteration (repetition) (ACTDIP019)


# Challenges

- Keep tasks simple
- Use consistent language
- Adjust timeframe
- Start and finish points
- Position of Bot
- Coding Blocks
- The Queue
- Maps/Grids
- Keeping up with everything
- Accessible to all



# VIDEO





**Your turn  
to CODE!**

# Reference Links.

- <https://ase.tufts.edu/DevTech/publications/computersandeducation.pdf>
- <https://code.org/>
- <https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/curriculum/learning-for-the-future/future-focused-learning-and-teaching/project-based-learning-resource-guide/introducing-project-based-learning>
- <https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/curriculum/learning-for-the-future/stem>
- <https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/understanding-the-curriculum/programming/stem-support>
- <http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/learning-areas/technologies/coding-across-the-curriculum>
- <https://scratch.mit.edu/>
- <https://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/f-10-curriculum/technologies/digital-technologies/structure/>
- <https://www.bitdegree.org/tutorials/what-is-coding/>
- <https://www.learningpotential.gov.au/what-is-coding>
- <https://www.primotoys.com/>
- [https://www.primotoys.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Cubetto\\_teachers\\_guide.pdf](https://www.primotoys.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Cubetto_teachers_guide.pdf)
- <https://www.terrapiinlogo.com/downloads/file/Getting%20Started%20with%20Blue-Bot%20App.pdf>
- <https://www.tynker.com/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S95KiPws54M>