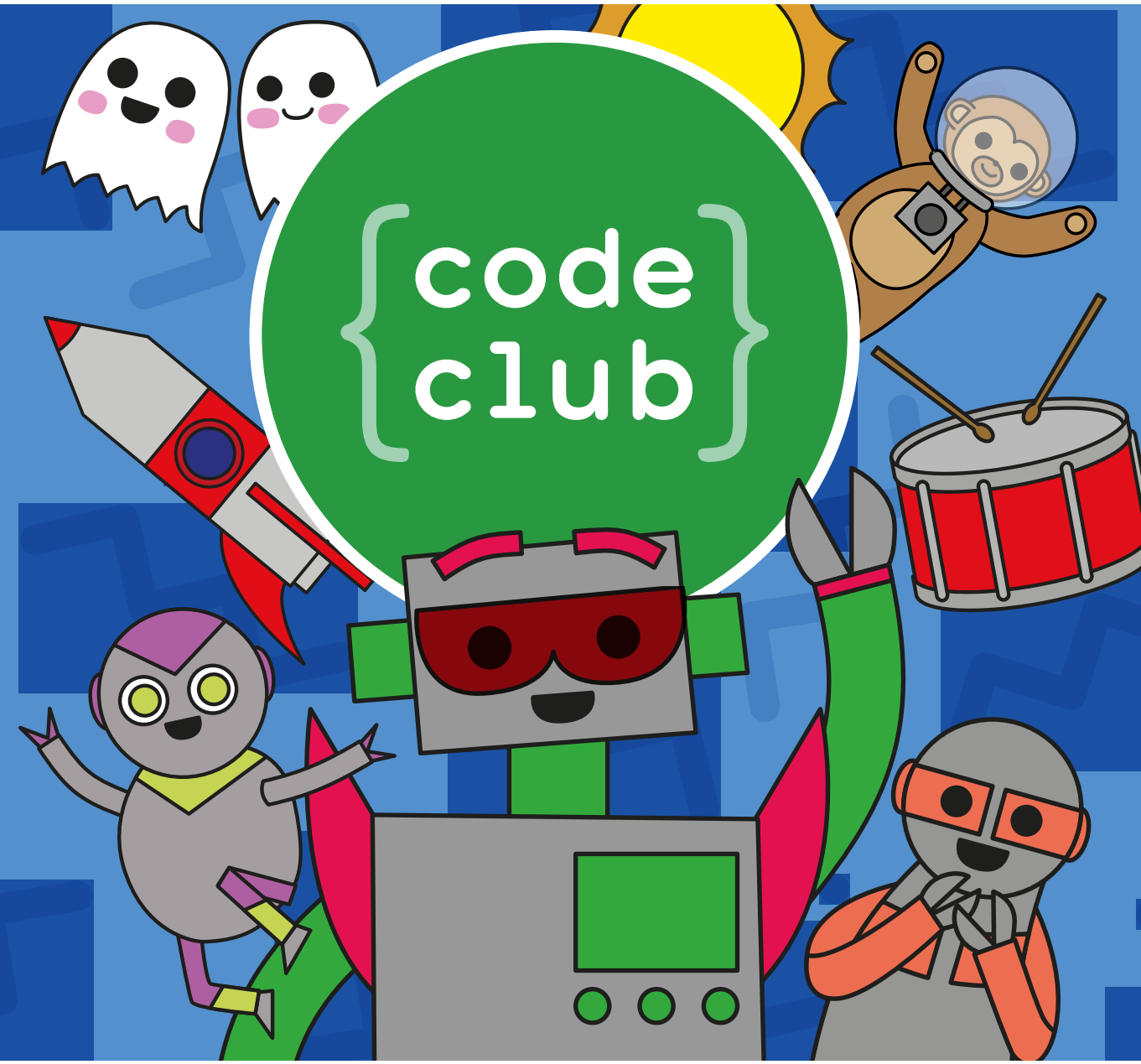
Simple coding for total beginners



Book of Scratch

Volume 1

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{code club}
when clicked
say I can code!
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I can code!
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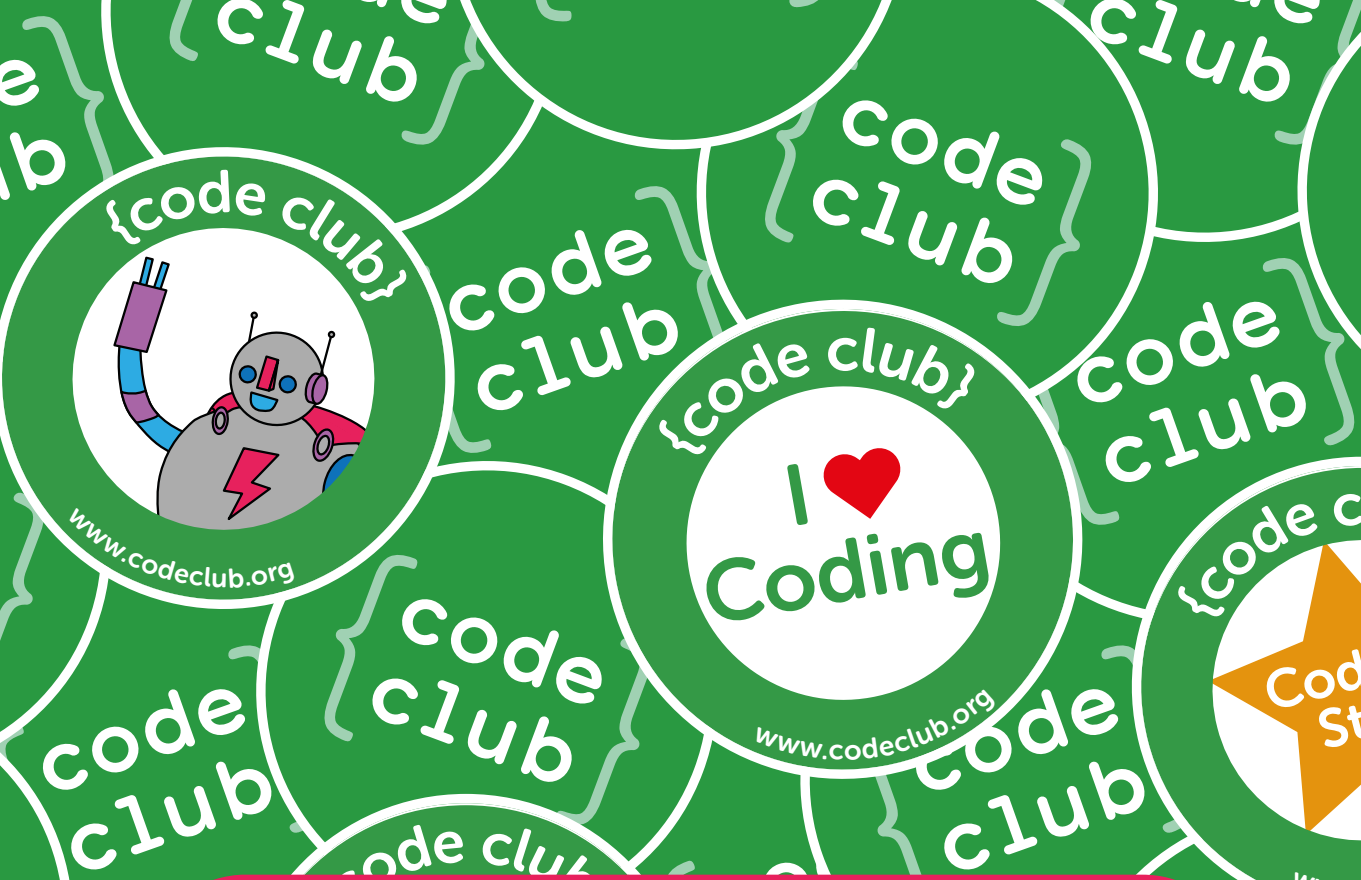

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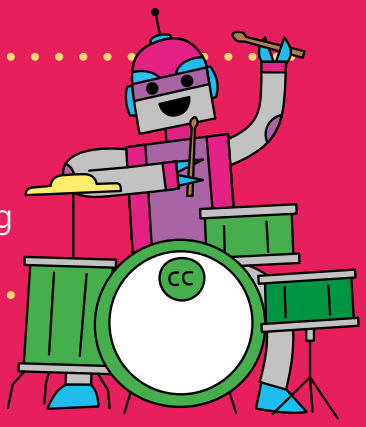

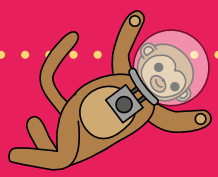

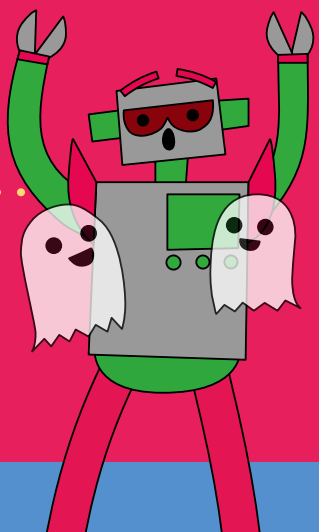

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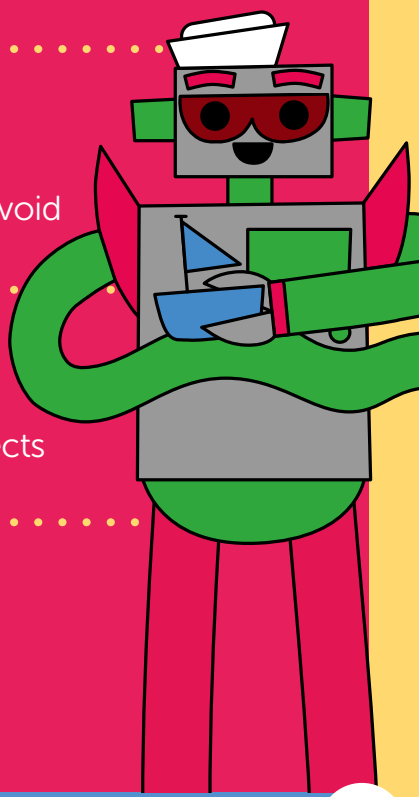
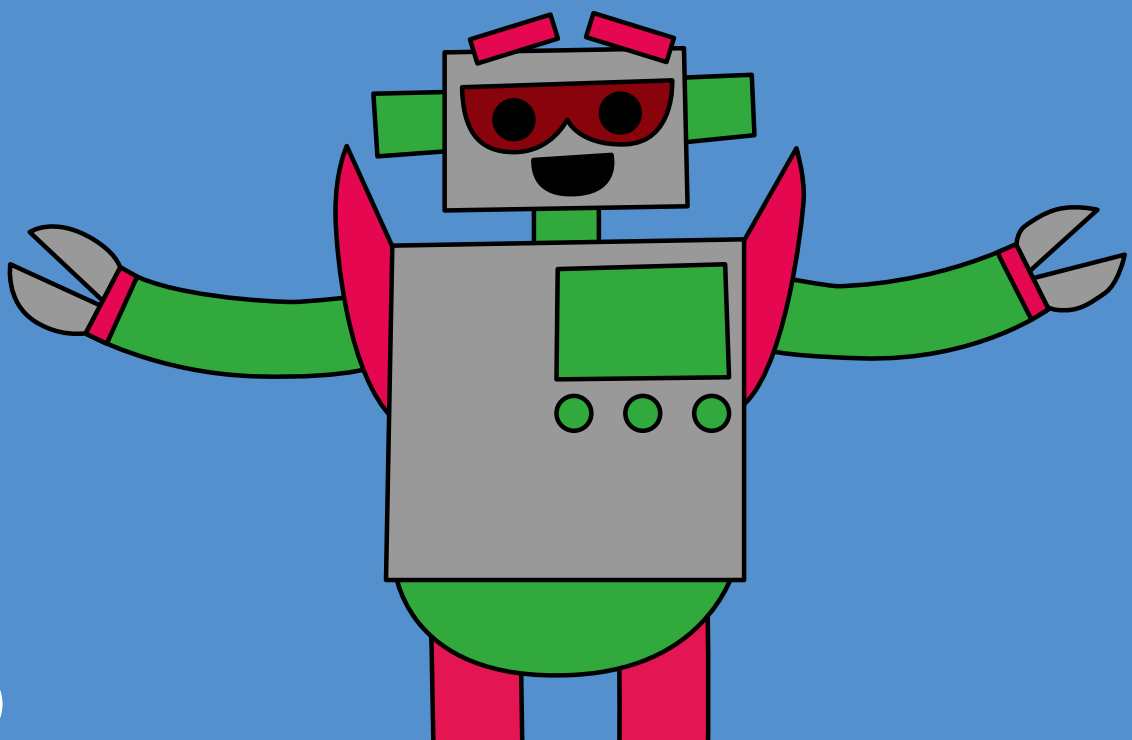
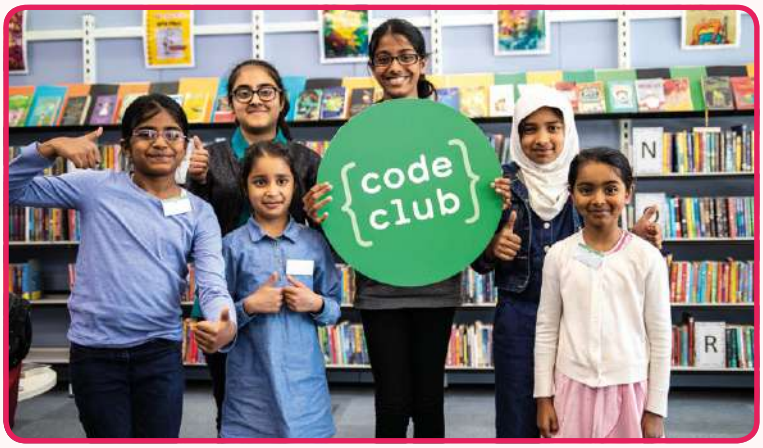


Welcome to the First Ever Code Club Book!





Code Club is a movement of free, fun computing clubs that meet in over 150 countries all over the world. At Code Club, hundreds of thousands of young people – just like you – learn how to create with technology and have made their own games, animations, websites, and more.

To get a computer to do things you want it to, you need to give it instructions in a language the computer understands. Creating those instructions is called coding or programming.

In this book we show you how to use a programming language called Scratch, which uses blocks to tell the computer what to do. Each block contains an instruction that the computer understands. You put blocks together to make your program. Simple.

Programming in Scratch is a great way to learn how to code. It's also really creative. You can create your own characters and backgrounds to make your project unique. You can remix and change existing projects. For example, you can make a game more difficult by speeding things up, or easier by slowing things down. The possibilities are limitless.

In each chapter you'll find instructions for building a cool project with Scratch. Our friendly Code Club robot will guide you through and give you some handy tips. There are tick-boxes to help you keep track of your progress (we

love tick-boxes) and you can give yourself a big pat on the back when you finish each project.

We've also included lots of challenges for you to change and personalise your projects and plenty of ideas to inspire you to create something new using the computing skills that you learn.

Coding can be hard and even the world's best computer scientists get stuck sometimes. That's why we've included some special upside-down hints that you can use if you're really stuck. Only to be used in emergencies!

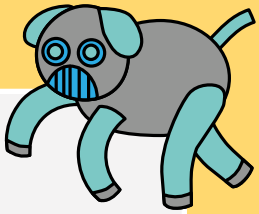
Once you've completed the projects in this book, you can find loads more fun project ideas on our website **rpf.io/ccprojects**.

You could also ask your teacher to set up a Code Club in your school using the letter on the next page. Don't forget to sign it and to complete the blank space we left to tell your teacher why you love coding!

I really hope you enjoy this book and I can't wait to see what you create.

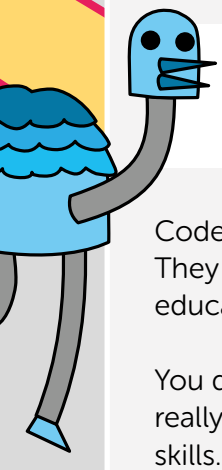
Maria Quevedo
Director of Code Club

Fill out this letter and give it to your teacher
if you would like to start a Code Club in your school.



Dear

I've been learning how to code at home using the Code Club Book of Scratch.
I would love to keep coding at a Code Club in our school. I love coding because...



Code Club is a global network of over 12 000 coding clubs for 9 to 13-year-olds. They provide free online projects, training, and resources to help teachers and educators run lunchtime or after-school clubs.

You don't need any coding experience to run a club: Code Club's projects are really easy to follow and help pupils and teachers develop their programming skills. They are really fun and a great starting point for creating awesome games, websites, and animations!

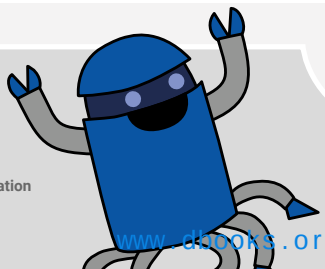
It would be so great to have a Code Club in our school, and I'd be happy to help!

Here's what other teachers say:

"I started a Code Club to give pupils a chance to try different things, as well as to explore their own ideas. Pupils have a natural love of creativity, technology, and challenge – Code Club ticks all these boxes and has provided me with an excellent platform to embed Computing in a school setting."

Matt Warne, Teacher at RGS The Grange

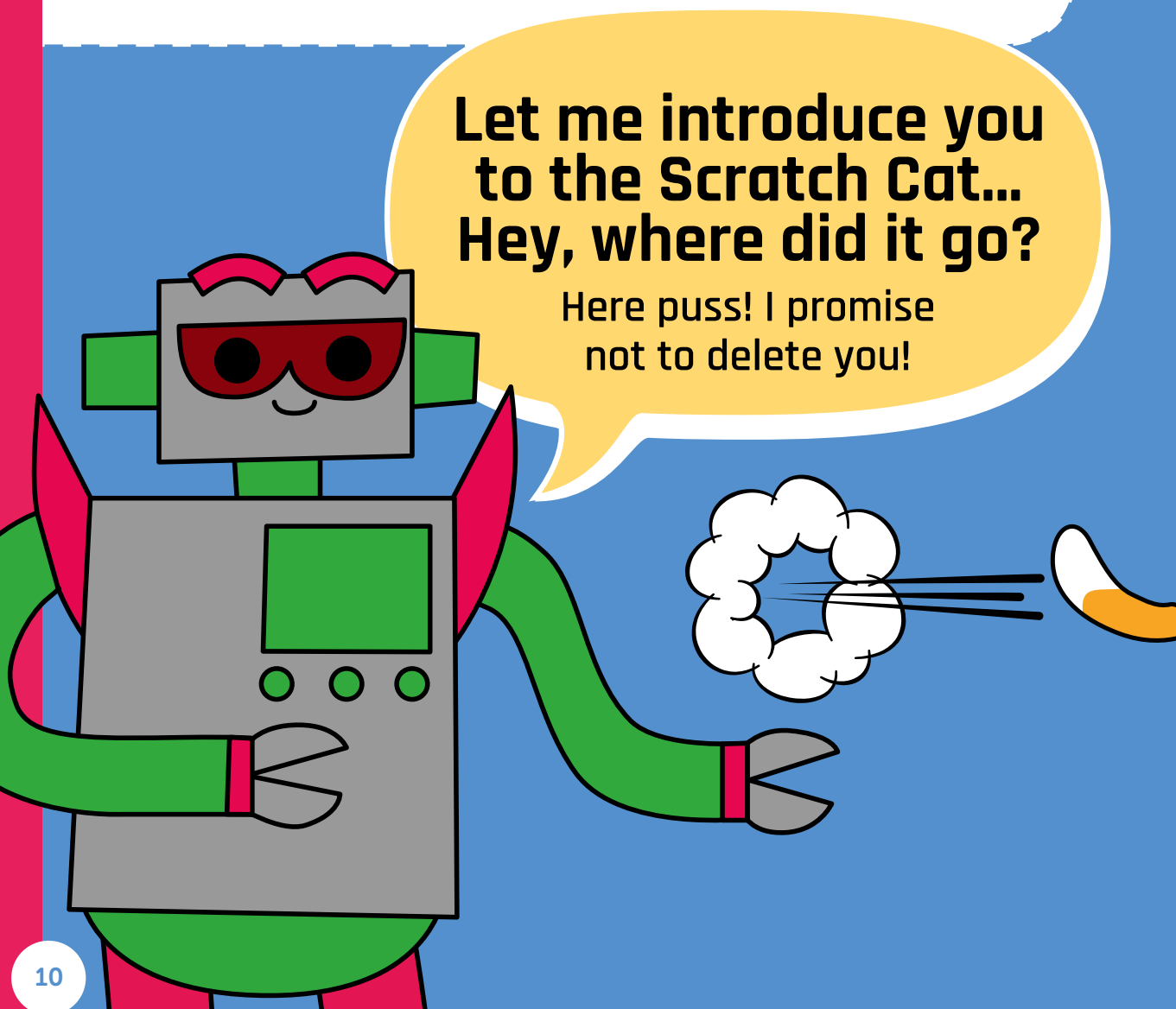
If you'd like to find out more, visit codeclub.org
From,



Code Club is part of The Raspberry Pi Foundation
UK registered charity 1129409

Introducing Scratch

Discover how to navigate Scratch's user interface and website to start coding and sharing projects



Scratch is a programming language that allows you to use code blocks to create animations, stories, musical instruments, games, and much more. It's a bit like programming using Lego!

The easiest way to start programming in Scratch is to use the online editor. Visit **scratch.mit.edu** in a browser and click **Create** at the top of the page to get started.

There are lots of advantages to working online, but if you prefer to work offline (or don't always have an internet connection), you can click **Offline Editor** at the bottom of the homepage to download Scratch instead.

TIP!

PROJECT FILES

To download a zip file of all the Scratch 2 (.sb2) project assets files for this book, go to:

rpf.io/book-s1-assets

The Editor

Find your way around the Scratch editor...

01: STAGE

A project contains 'sprites' which you add code to. Sprites appear on the stage and can be coded to move around, make sounds, and do lots of other things.

02: BLOCKS PALETTE

Code blocks can be used to control your sprites and stage backdrop. All blocks are colour-coded, and can be found in the categories at the top of the blocks palette.

03: SCRIPTS AREA

Drag blocks from the palette to this area and create scripts by clicking them together.

04: BACKPACK

Add scripts to your backpack to use them in other projects.

05: SPRITE LIST
This shows all of the sprites in your project. You can click the blue information icon on any sprite to change its name and how it behaves.

06: BACKDROPS
Change how your stage looks by adding new backdrops.

07: FULL-SCREEN
Make your stage full-screen so that others can see your creation in its full glory.

08: PROJECT NAME

09: START/STOP YOUR PROJECT

10: CURSOR TOOLS
Duplicate , Delete , Grow , and Shrink a sprite (by clicking an icon and then a sprite on the stage). Click the Block Help tool , then a block in the palette to learn more about it.

11: SCRIPTS/ COSTUMES/ SOUNDS TABS
Switch between coding your project, and adding costumes and sounds.

12: MOUSE POINTER CO-ORDINATES

13: SHARE
If you have a Scratch account, you can share your projects with the community.

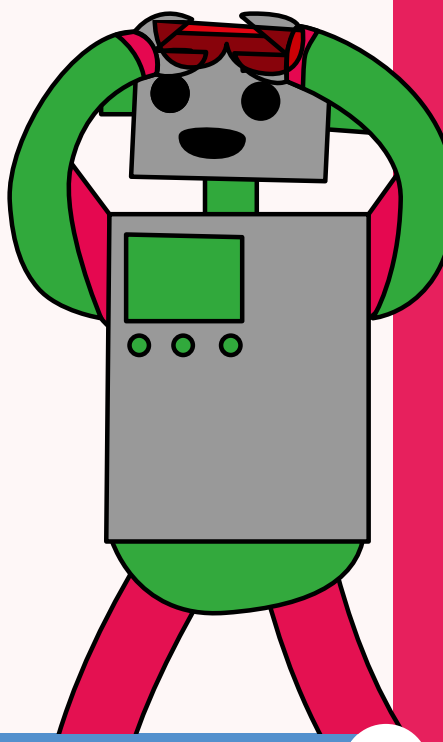
14: SEE PROJECT PAGE
Add instructions and other notes to your project, and see how others in the community are interacting with it.

15: TIPS
Get project tutorials, tips on using Scratch, and learn more about how each block works.

16: ZOOM

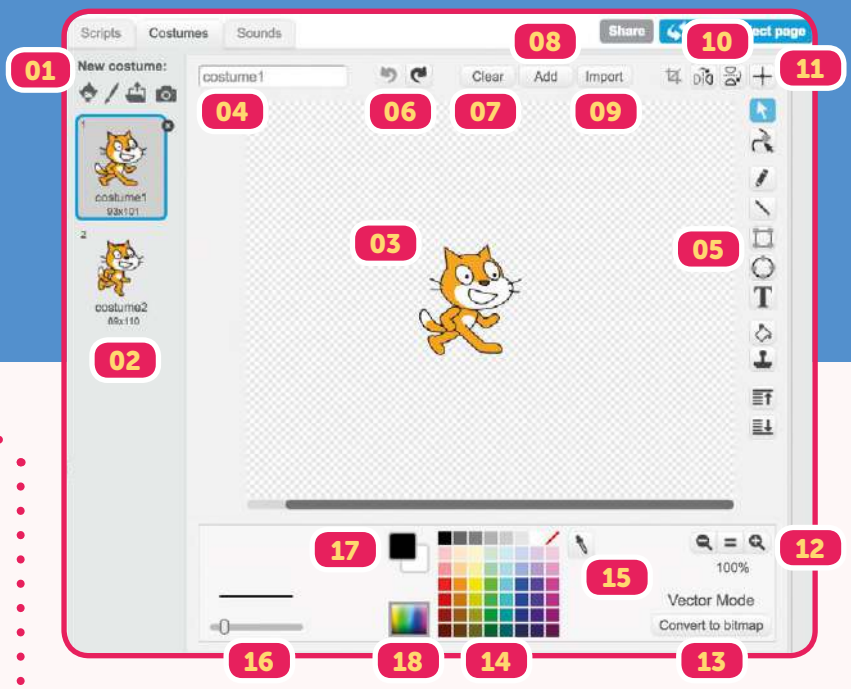
17: MENU
Use the menu to load, save, and browse your projects, and access loads of other useful options.

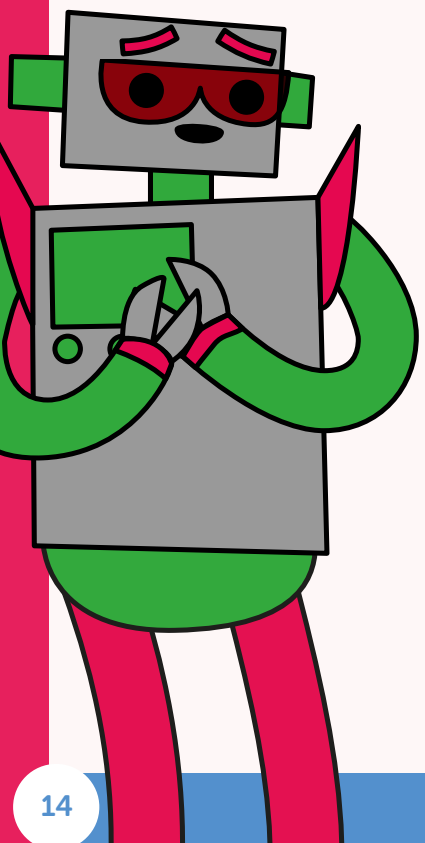
18: MY STUFF
This is where your projects are stored online.



Costumes Tab

Click on this tab to open the paint editor





01: NEW COSTUME

Add costumes to a sprite by adding them from the Scratch library , drawing your own , uploading an image from your computer , or using your webcam to take a picture.

02: COSTUMES LIST

Your sprite's costumes will appear here, and you can click one to start editing it.

03: CANVAS

This is the canvas where you edit a costume.

04: COSTUME NAME

You can change the name of a costume, so that you can find it more easily.

05: TOOLS

You can use these tools to edit your image. You can add lines, shapes and text, as well as adding colour, and lots more.

06: UNDO/REDO

Use these arrows to undo or redo your last action.

07: CLEAR

Clear the current costume and start again!

08: ADD

Add another costume image from the Scratch library.

09: IMPORT

Add another costume image from your computer.

10: FLIP

Flip costume horizontally or vertically .

11: COSTUME CENTRE

Set your costume's centre, which is used when moving and rotating your sprite.

12: ZOOM

Use these icons to zoom in and out of your costume as you edit it.

13: BITMAP/VECTOR MODE

The paint editor has two modes – Bitmap and Vector. In Vector mode (shown here), the editor lets you to edit shapes after you have created them, and your costumes and backgrounds will look really good when you make them bigger. When you create a new costume, the editor will be in Bitmap mode by default. In Bitmap mode, you can't easily move or resize shapes you have drawn, but some people find it easier to get started with. When you edit an existing costume, the editor will be in the mode that the costume was created with.

14: COLOUR PALETTE

Use this palette to choose a colour.

15: COLOUR PICKER

Use this to pick up a colour on your costume.

16: LINE SIZE

Move this slider to change the line size used when drawing.

17: COLOUR SWITCH

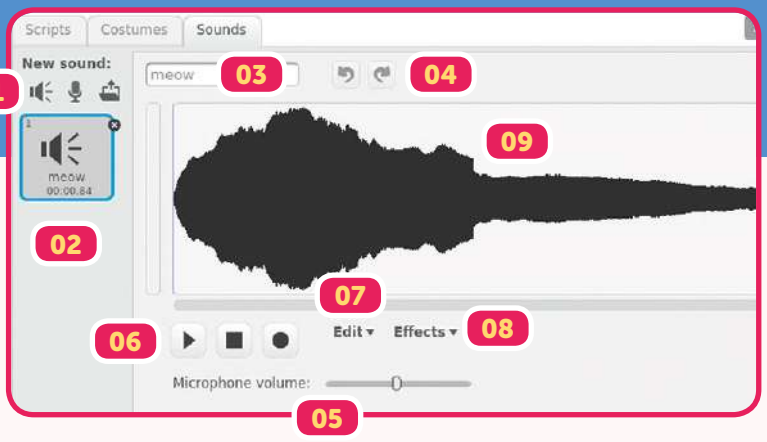
Switch between two selected colours.

18: SWITCH PALETTE

Change the colour palette to 'advanced', to give you access to more shades.

Sounds Tab

Change the sounds your sprites make



01: NEW SOUND

You can add sounds to a sprite (or the stage) from the Scratch library , by recording your own (if you have a microphone) , or by uploading a sound from your computer .

02: SOUNDS LIST

Your sprite/stage's sounds appear here, and you can click one to start editing it.

03: SOUND NAME

You can change the name of a sound, so that you can find it more easily.

04: UNDO/REDO

Undo or redo your last action.

05: MICROPHONE VOLUME

Adjust your microphone volume to record quieter or louder sounds.

06: PLAYBACK CONTROLS

Listen to your sound, or record a new one.

07: EDIT

Remix your sound by cutting, copying, and pasting.

08: EFFECTS

Add effects to your sound, such as fading in and out or reversing.

09: SOUND WAVE

This is what your sound looks like! You can select a part of your sound to edit by dragging over it using the mouse.

Creating a Scratch Account

Save and share your projects online

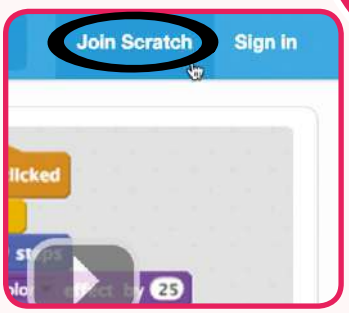
Creating a Scratch account will allow you to save your projects online, so that you can access them from any computer with an internet connection. You will also be able to share your projects with the Scratch community and comment on other projects. To create a Scratch account, click **Join Scratch**.

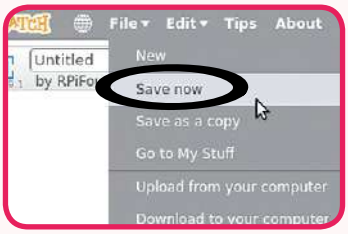
When coding online...

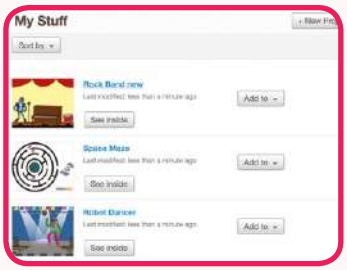
- **Don't use your real name when creating a user name.**
- **Be respectful of others when commenting on and remixing projects.**

If you have a Scratch account, you can click **File** and then **Save now** to save your project. Once you've saved your project, it will appear in your **My Stuff** folder.

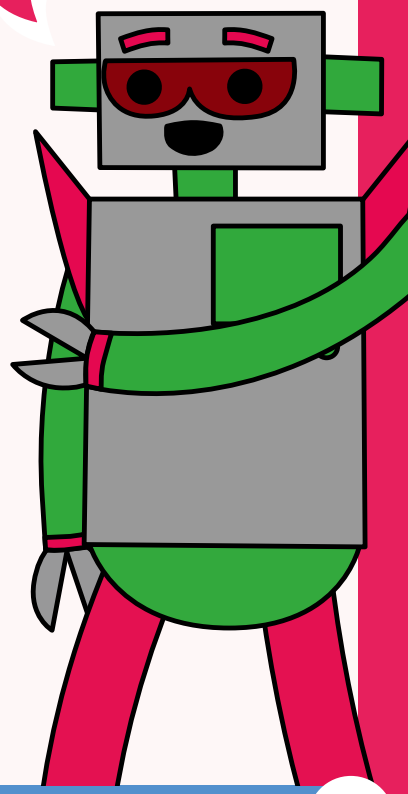
To access your stuff from within a project, click **File** and then **Go to My Stuff**. You should see a list of all of your projects.





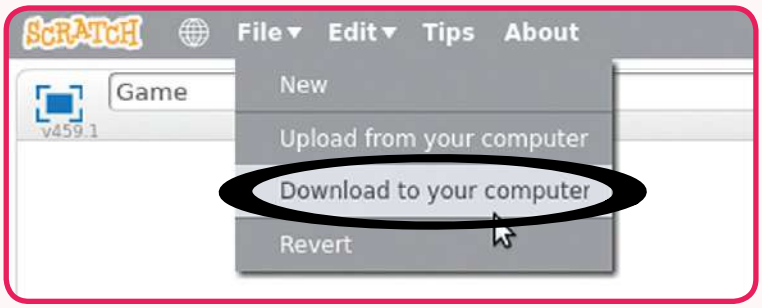


You'll need parental permission to set up an account if you are under 13 years of age. Read the community guidelines at **scratch.mit.edu/community_guidelines** before creating an account.

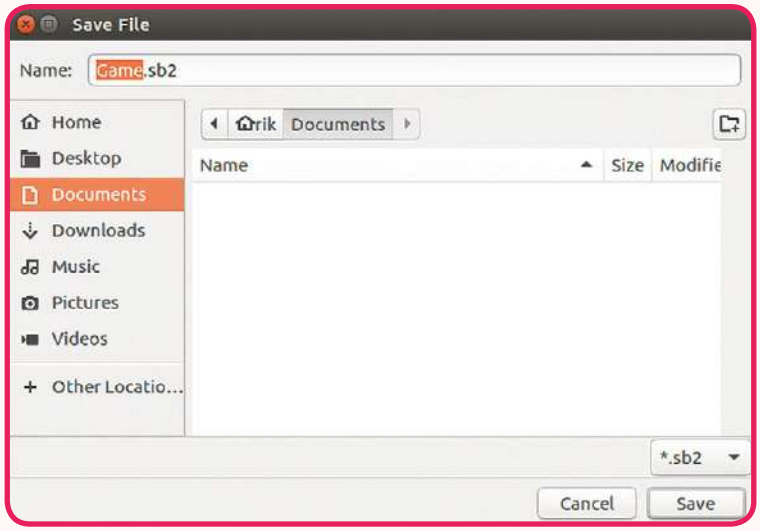


SAVING PROJECTS WITHOUT A SCRATCH ACCOUNT

If you don't have a Scratch account, you can still save your Scratch projects by clicking **File** and then **Download to your computer**. You will then be asked where to store the Scratch project, which will be a .sb2 file. This will download your project from the Scratch editor.

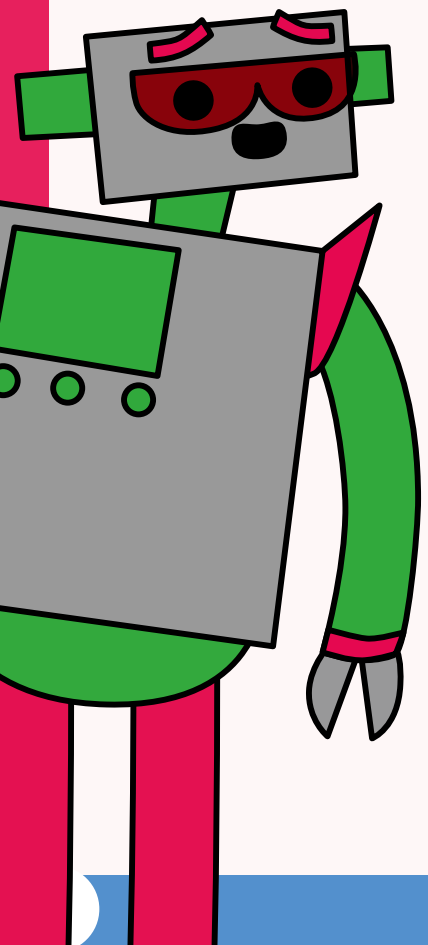


To continue working on your project, go into the Scratch editor and click **File** and then **Upload from your computer**. Find your Scratch .sb2 file and click **OK** / **Open**. This will upload your project to the Scratch editor.



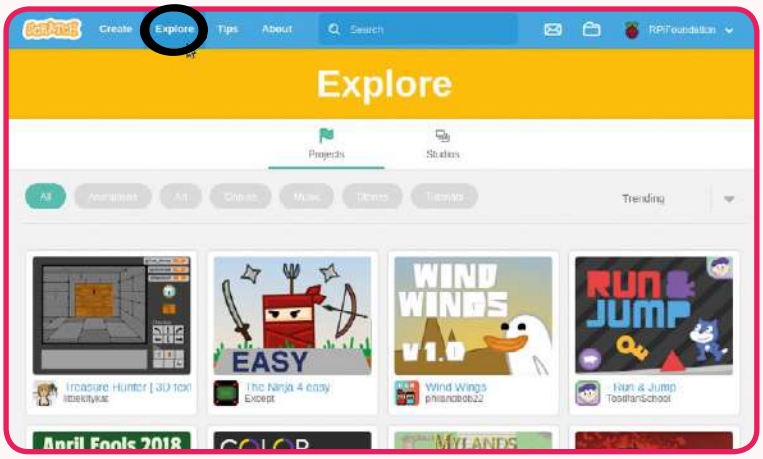
The Scratch community

One of the great things about programming in Scratch is that you get to be part of a community of millions of people around the world, all creating and sharing their ideas with each other.

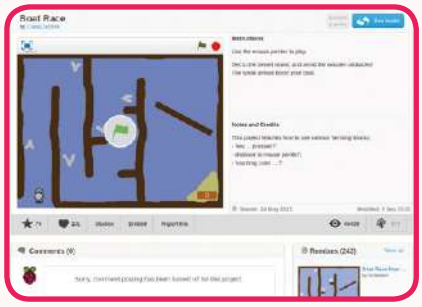


FINDING PROJECTS

To see what others in the Scratch community are making, click **Explore** in the top menu of the website. You can look for popular or recently created projects, as well as searching by keyword, such as 'Games' or 'Tutorials'. You can use the search bar if you are looking for something in particular.



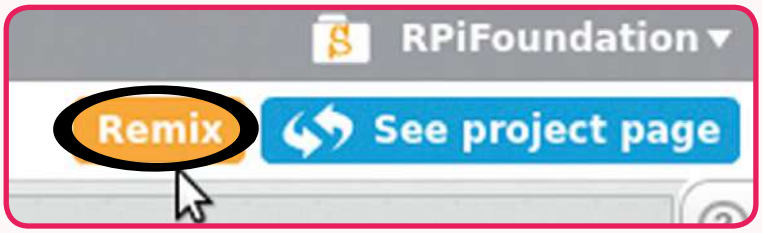
Once you've found a project you like, you can click the green flag to play it. Below the project are buttons to favourite/love a project or to report a project if it is inappropriate. You can also leave a comment, and click **See Inside** if you want to see the code.



If you find someone whose work you like, you can click their user name and then click **Follow**. You will then be notified when they create something new.

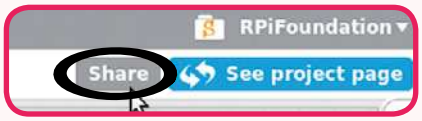
REMIXING

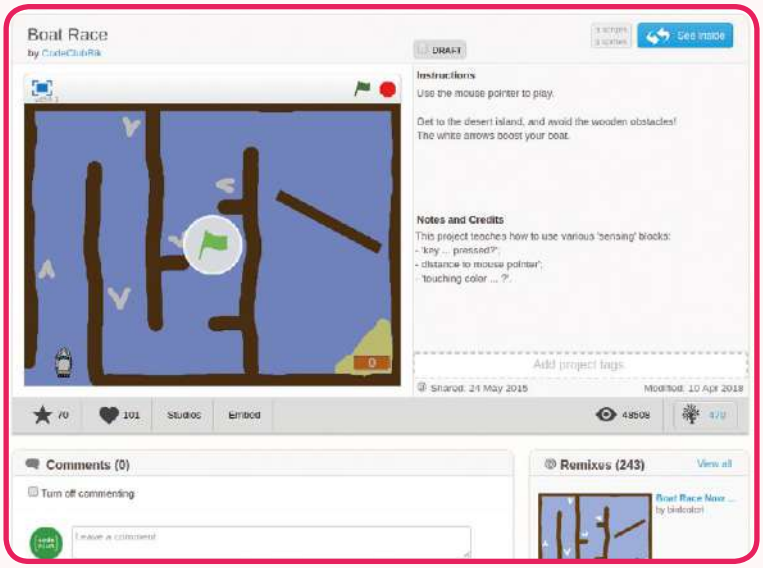
You can use other Scratch projects to get ideas, and use them as a starting point for your own creations. If you have a Scratch account, you can click **Remix** on a project to save your own copy.



Sharing

Sharing your projects with the Scratch community allows others to enjoy your awesome creations. Projects aren't shared with the community unless you want them to be, and you can share projects by clicking the Share button at the top-right.





Before sharing your project, it's a good idea to check the project page to make sure the community have all the information they need to use your project. You can add instructions to tell others how to use your project, and credit

other people who have helped you (especially if you've remixed a project).

Once shared, others in the community will be able to comment on your project, although you can disable comments if you prefer. Comments are really useful for improving your project by finding out what people do and don't enjoy. You can also see how many people have viewed, favourited, and loved the project, as well as how many have remixed your project.

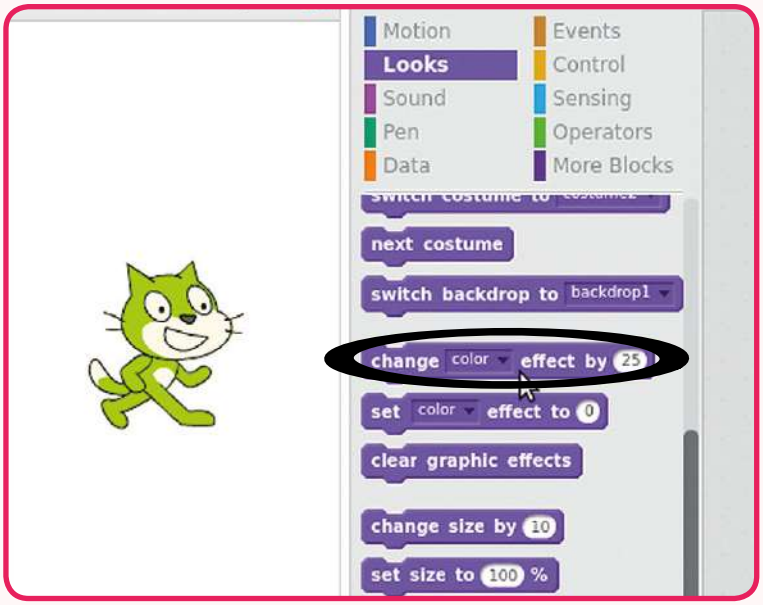
Tips for Scratch coding

If you're not sure what a code block does, you can right-click and select **help** to learn more about it. You can also just click the block to see what it does before adding it to a script!

If you need a bit more help, Scratch has a help section that includes:

- **Step-by-step instructions for making animations, stories, music, and games**
- **A 'How to' section that shows you how to do specific things in your project**
- **A 'Blocks' section that explains what each of the blocks do**

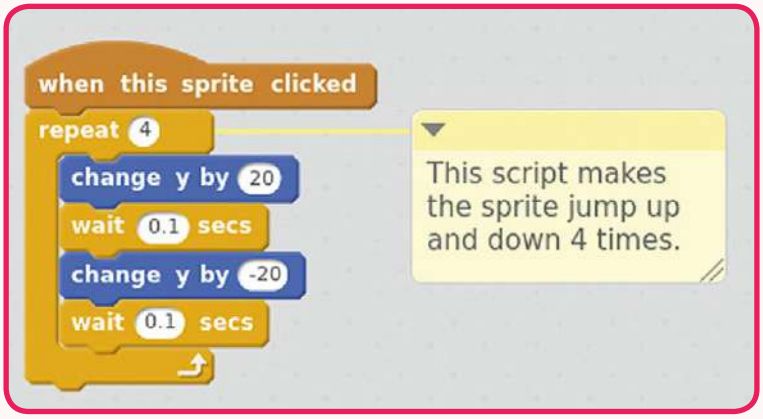
If you are not sure how to do something, you can also ask others for help. Maybe they had the same problem as you!

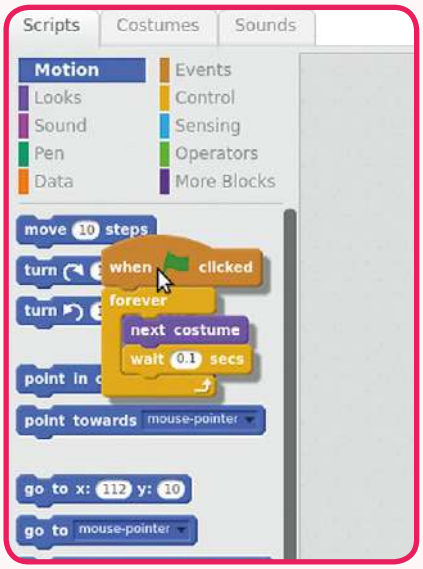


Test your code regularly, to make sure your code does what you want it to. You will find it much easier to fix problems in your code if you test each time you make a change to your code.

Get others to try out your projects, and ask them what they like about your project and what they would improve.

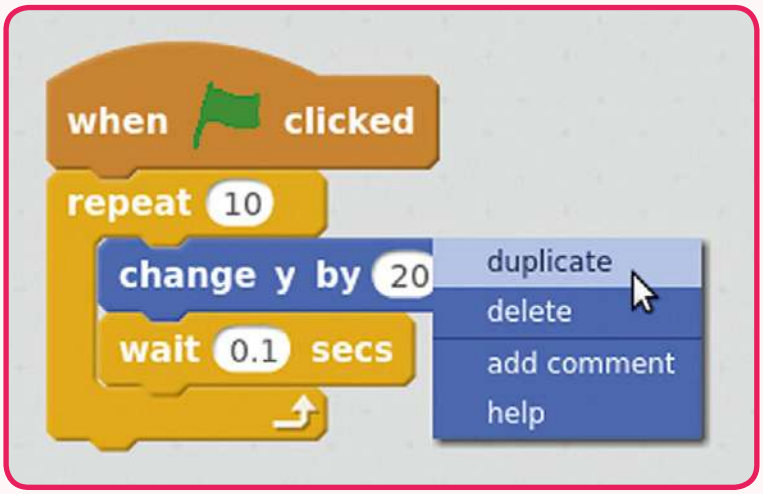
You can add comments to a script by right-clicking on a block and selecting **add comment**. It's a good idea to comment a script to explain what it does, so that others will know what your scripts do. It's also useful in case you forget what your code does!





To delete blocks, drag them over the palette area. Don't worry if you accidentally delete blocks you need: you can click the **File** menu and then **undelete** to get them back!

You can right-click on a block and choose **duplicate** to make a copy of that block and the blocks attached below it.

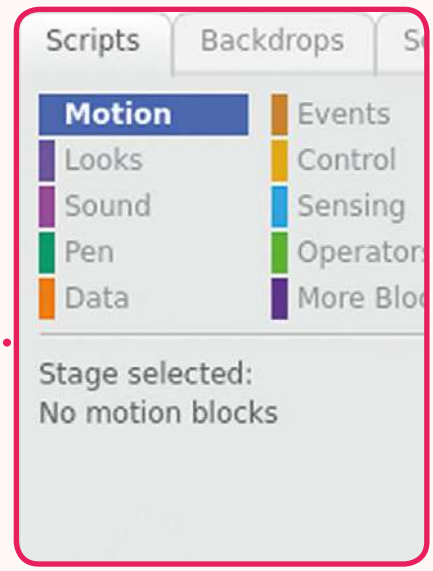


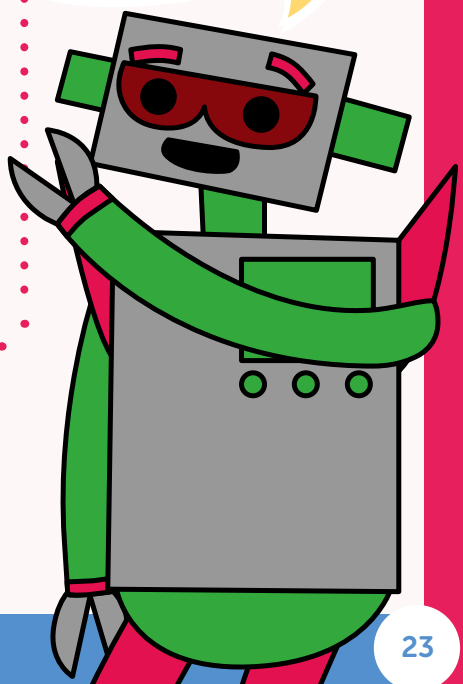
Dragging blocks to another sprite makes a copy of them. This is useful if you need similar code in another sprite.

Can't wait to get coding?

Turn the page to start your first project...

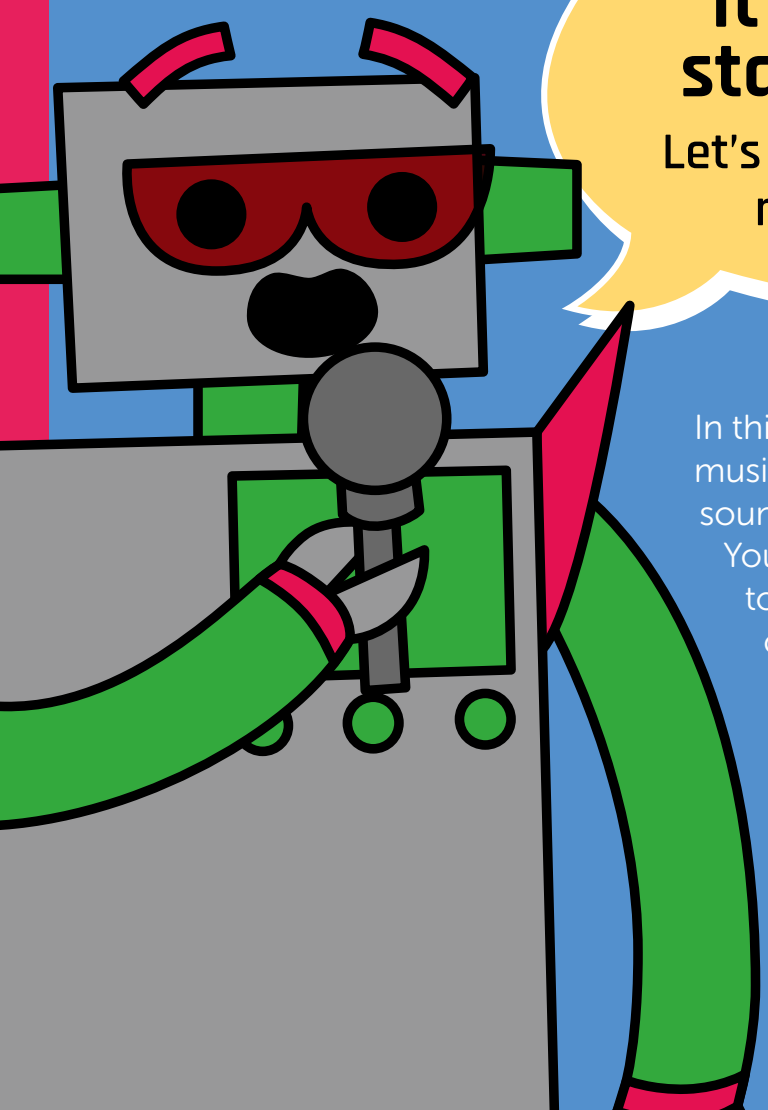
If you can't find the blocks you need to control a sprite, for example the Motion blocks, it may be that you have the Stage selected.





Rock Band

Create your own virtual rock band by coding a selection of musical instruments



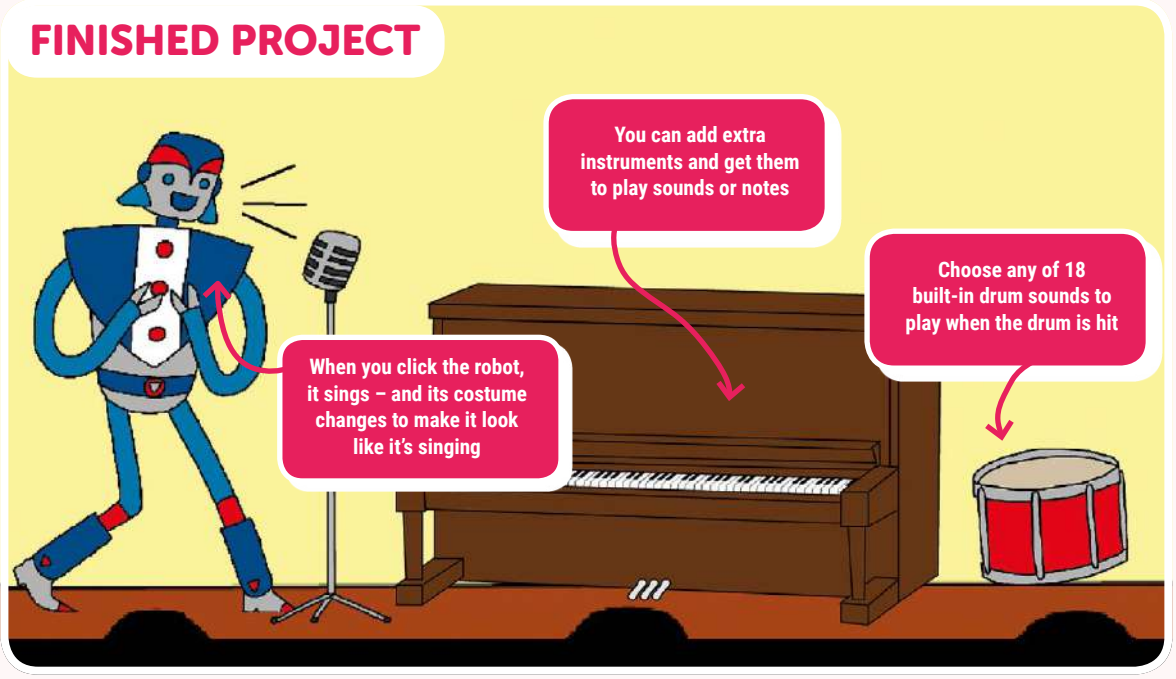
It's time to start coding!

Let's create a musical masterpiece!

In this chapter, you'll be creating musical instruments that play sounds when you click on them. You'll learn how to add sprites to a project and change their costumes, as well as how to add your own sounds and music to your projects.

So get ready to make some noise!

FINISHED PROJECT



STEP 1: SPRITES AND THE STAGE

Let's start by taking a look at the Scratch project.

☑ In a web browser, go to **rpf.io/book-rockband** to open the Rock Band Scratch project. Click Remix.

If you'd prefer to use Scratch offline, click **File** → **Download to your computer** in the Scratch online editor. You can then open the project in the offline editor. *[See the 'Introduction to Scratch' chapter for more information on using Scratch offline.]*

The **stage** is at the top-left of the editor, and is where the action happens. Think of it as a performance area, just like a real stage.

This project contains **sprites** which you can add code blocks to. Sprites appear on the stage and can move around, make sounds, and do lots of other things.

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

- Sprites
- Costumes
- Events
- Sequencing instructions
- Sound and music

TIP!

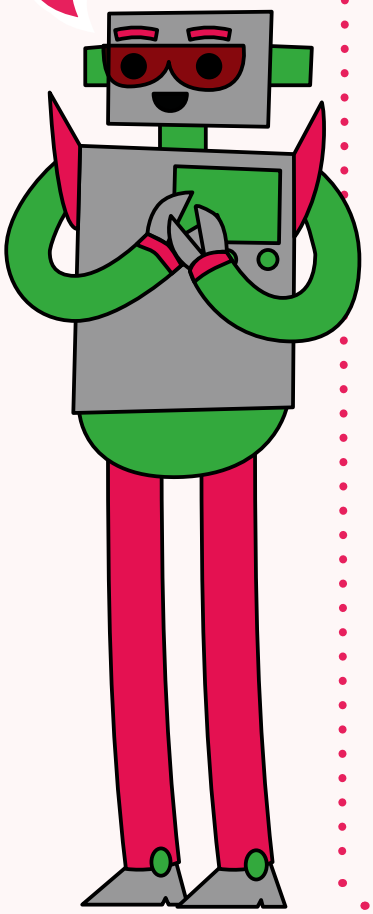
PROJECT FILES

To download a zip file of all the Scratch 2 (.sb2) project assets files for this book, go to:

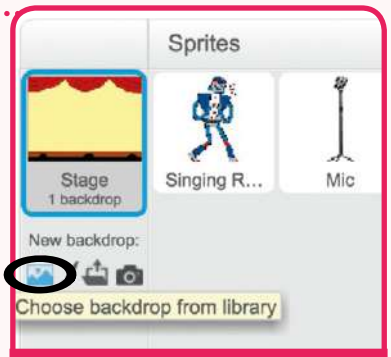
rpf.io/book-s1-assets

TIP! EVENTS

Events blocks are used to tell sprites when to run some code. Scratch has lots of Events blocks, for running code when a project starts, a sprite is clicked, a key is pressed, and more.



If you want to change the stage backdrop, click the **Choose backdrop from library** icon and select your own from the library.



You can add a new backdrop to the project

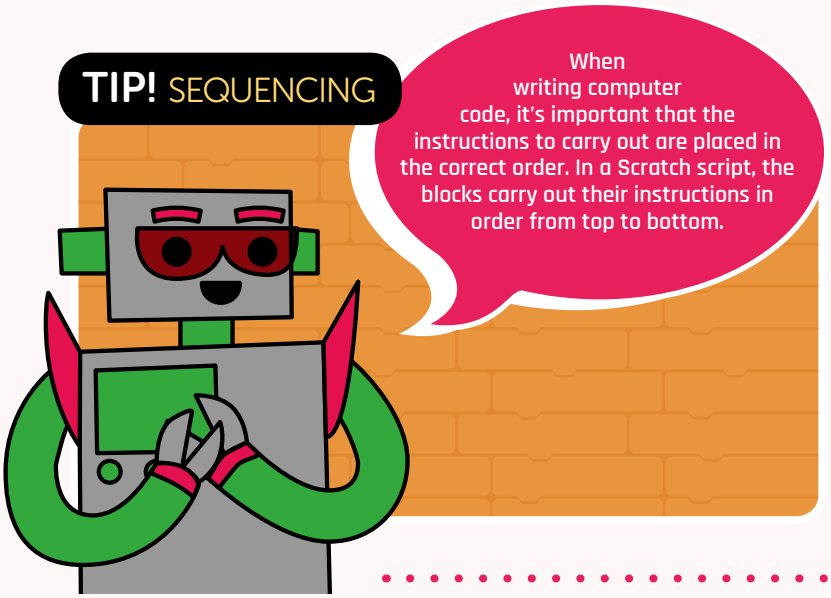
STEP 2: CODE A DRUM

Let's code your drum to make music when it's hit.

Select your Drum sprite and click the **Scripts** tab. You should see lots of colour-coded blocks that can be used to control your robot. Click on the **Events** category and then drag a **when this sprite clicked** block from the blocks palette into the coding area to the right.

Drag the block to the right and drop it in the coding area

TIP! SEQUENCING



Any code that you attach to your Events block will be run **in order** when you click your drum sprite. To play a sound, click the purple **Sound** category in the Scripts pane, to show all the Sound blocks below. Drag a **play drum** block into the coding area, attaching it to the bottom of the **when this sprite clicked** block.

Drop the **play drum** block just underneath the **when this sprite clicked** block so that it connects to it

TEST YOUR PROJECT

Click on your drum sprite and you should hear a sound.

CHALLENGE

HIT IT

Can you code your drum to make a sound when the SPACE bar is pressed?

HINT!

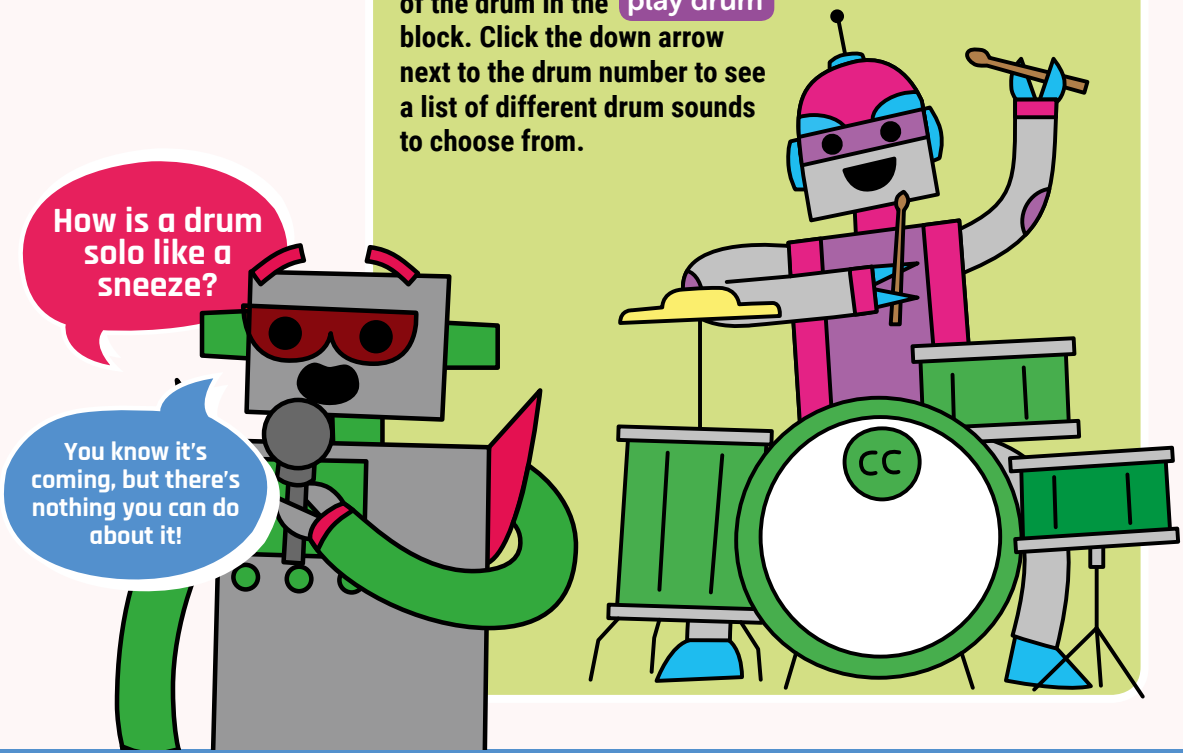
You'll need to use a different Events block to get the sprite to react to a key press.

HOW TO...

ALTER YOUR DRUM

Want to change the sound that your drum makes when it's clicked?

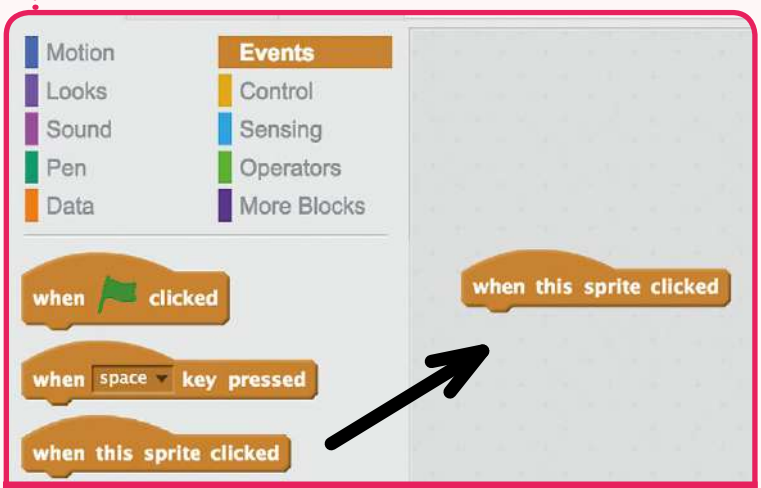
It's easy to change the sound of the drum in the play drum block. Click the down arrow next to the drum number to see a list of different drum sounds to choose from.



STEP 3: ADD A ROBOT SINGER

Let's code your robot sprite to make a sound when it's clicked.

Click on your robot sprite and then add a **when this sprite clicked** Events block from the blocks palette, just like you did with your drum.



As before, drag the block to the right and drop it in the coding area

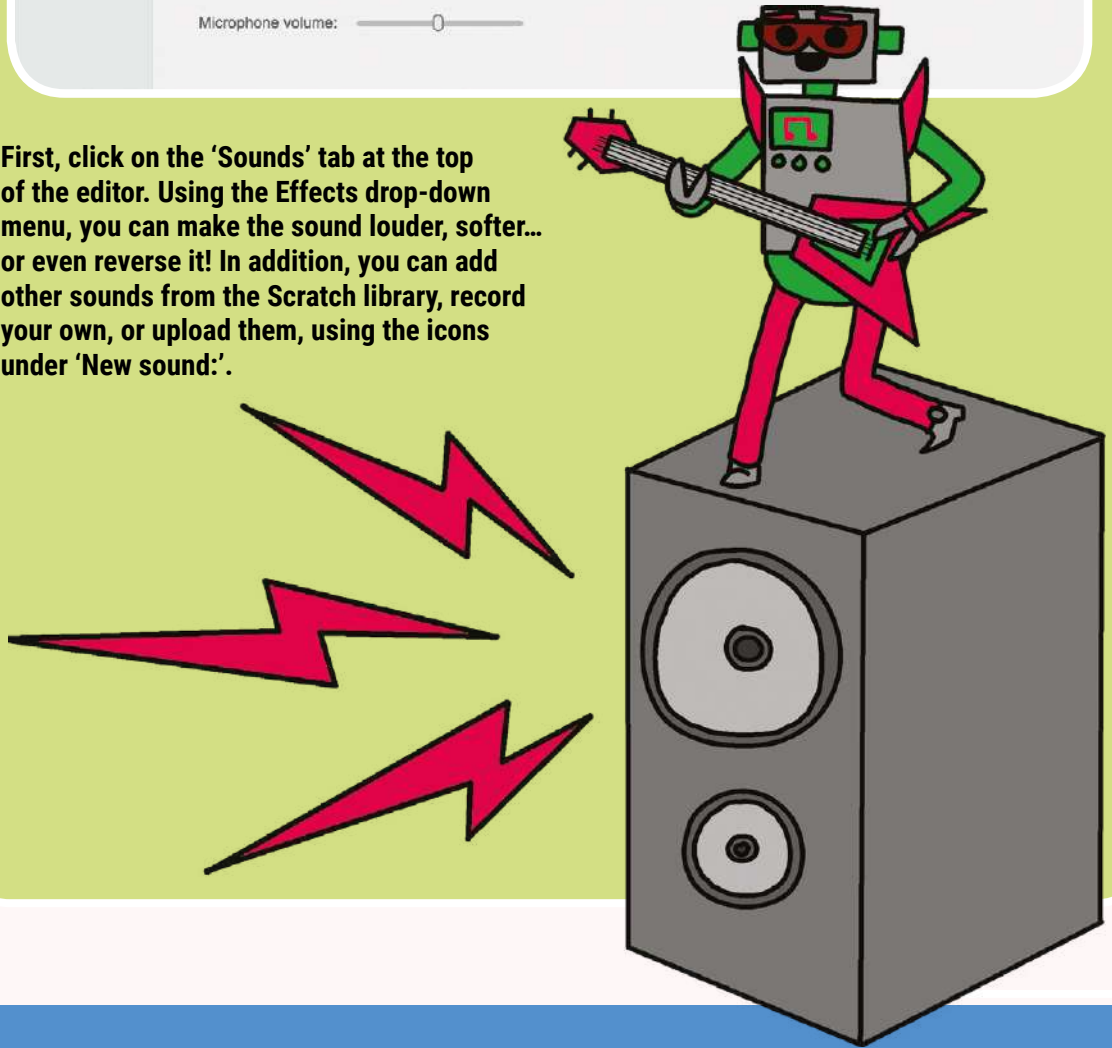
Drag a **play sound... until done** block into the coding area, attaching it to the bottom of the **when this sprite clicked** block.

HOW TO...

EDIT SOUNDS

Want to change the sound that your robot makes?

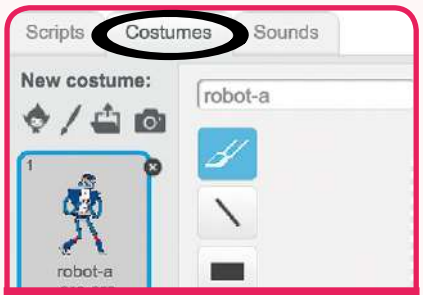
First, click on the 'Sounds' tab at the top of the editor. Using the Effects drop-down menu, you can make the sound louder, softer... or even reverse it! In addition, you can add other sounds from the Scratch library, record your own, or upload them, using the icons under 'New sound:'.



STEP 4: COSTUMES

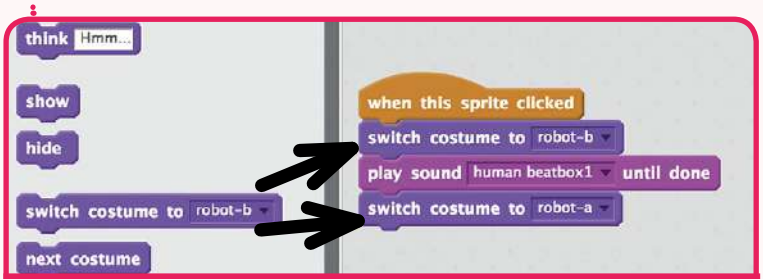
Let's make your robot look like it's singing!

Click on your robot sprite and then click on the **Costumes** tab at the top of the editor. You'll see that the robot has two costumes.



Click the Costumes tab

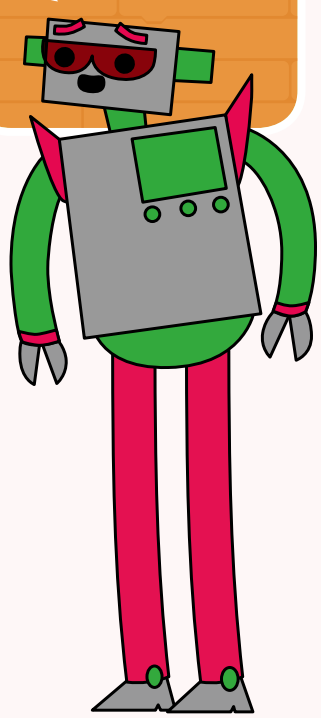
Click the **Scripts** tab to get back to your code. Click the **Looks** category and then drag two switch costume blocks into your code. Make sure that your robot first displays the **robot-b** costume, plays a sound, and then switches back to **robot-a**.



Add **switch costume** blocks above and below the **play sound** block

TIP! COSTUMES

Sprites in Scratch have a number of costumes, and you can code sprites to switch between costumes to change how sprites look. Scratch includes a library of costumes, or you can even draw your own.



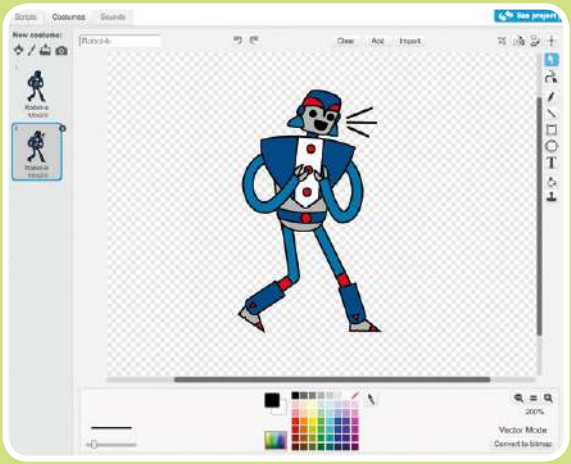
TEST YOUR PROJECT

Click your robot to test it. The robot should now change costume, play a sound, and then change back to the first costume once the sound has finished playing.

CHALLENGE

EDIT COSTUMES

Want to change how the robot looks when it's singing? Click the Costumes tab, then select the robot-b costume. You can then use the paint editor tools to alter it. Currently, it simply has three lines coming from its mouth, drawn using the line tool. You can use editing tools, such as the pencil, to make more changes to your robot.



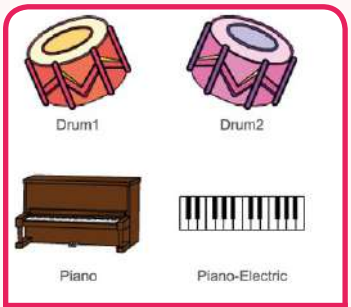
STEP 5: PLAYING A TUNE

Let's add a new piano sprite that plays a tune when clicked.

- [ ] Click the **Choose sprite from library** icon just below the stage to add a new sprite from the Scratch library.

Click this icon to add a sprite from the library

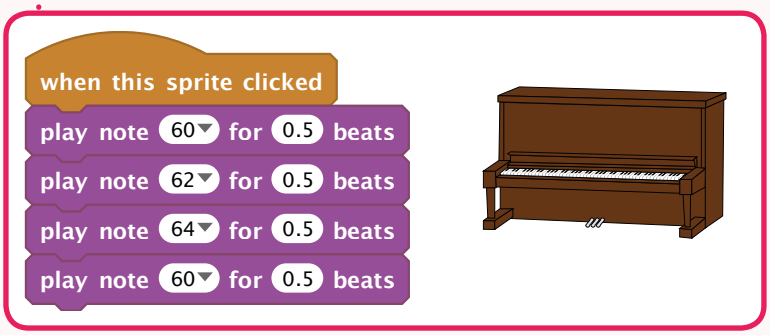
- [ ] Click the **Music** theme, select the **Piano** sprite, and then click OK to add it to your project.



You'll find the piano in the Scratch sprites library

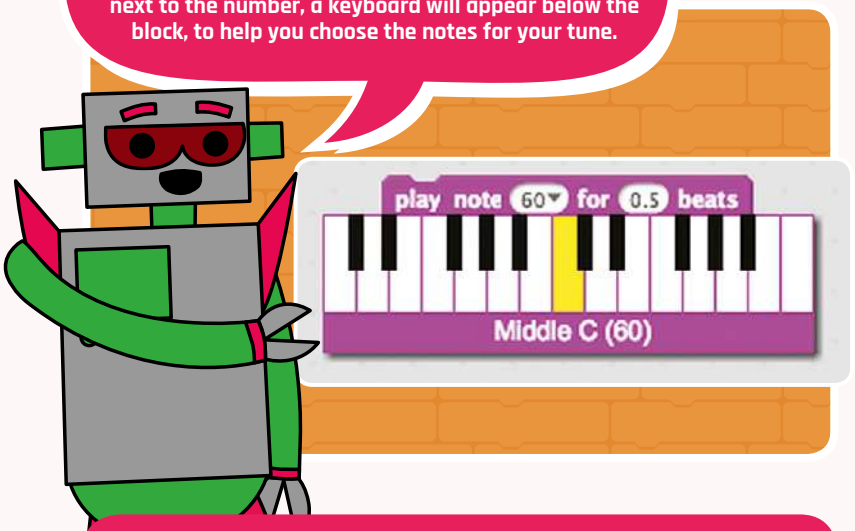
- [ ] The piano is too large to fit on the stage easily, so click the Shrink icon – in the tools to the right of 'About' in the top bar – and then click repeatedly on the piano on the stage to reduce its size.

Now add some **play note** blocks under a **when this sprite clicked** block to play a song/tune when the piano sprite is clicked.



TIP! PLAY NOTE BLOCKS

The numbers in the play note blocks relate to musical notes: number 60 is 'Middle C', and the higher the number the higher the note! If you click the arrow next to the number, a keyboard will appear below the block, to help you choose the notes for your tune.



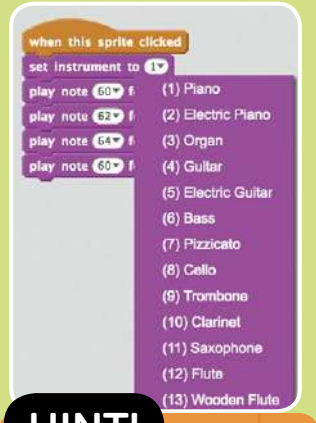
TEST YOUR PROJECT

What music is played when the piano sprite is clicked?

CHALLENGE

CREATE YOUR OWN TUNE

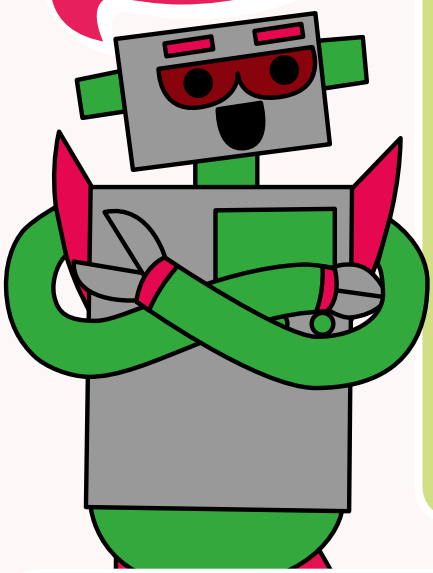
Can you change the notes played, and create your own tune?



HINT!

You can change the numbers in the play note blocks to create your own tune, and even use the set instrument block to choose a different instrument!

Grab a **when loudness** block, click the down arrow on it, and select **video motion**. Add a **play drum** block, then wave your hand to test it!



HOW TO...

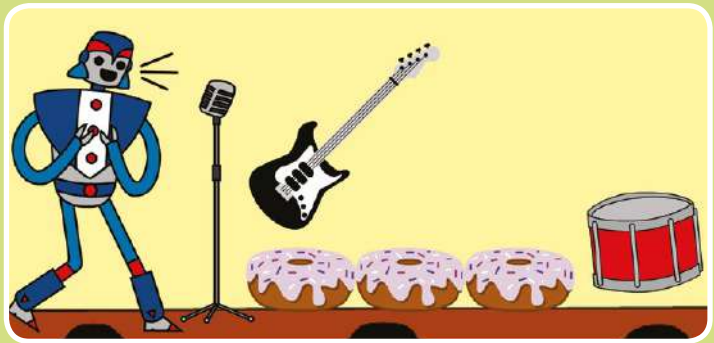
USE WEBCAM INPUT

If you have a webcam, you can use it to play instruments when you move over them!

CHALLENGE

MAKE YOUR OWN BAND

Can you use what you've learnt in this chapter to make your own band? Look at the available sounds and instruments to get some ideas, or you could even draw your own. Your instruments don't have to be sensible – you could make a piano made out of doughnuts!



HINT!

As well as using costumes, backdrops, and sounds from the Scratch library, you can create your own – use the Paint or Record Sound option.

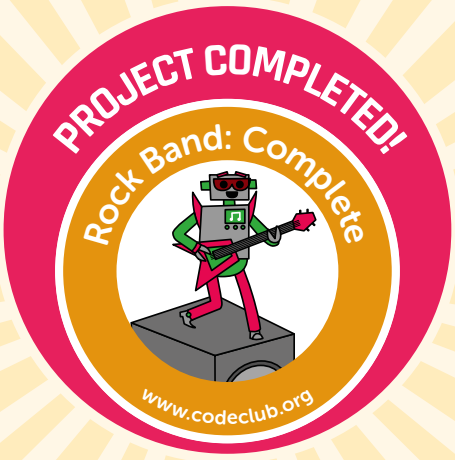
ROCK BAND: FULL CODE LISTING

DRUM

When the drum sprite is clicked, a drum beat is played.

```
when this sprite clicked
play drum [1] for [0.25] beats
```

This Sound block plays the chosen drum sound for 0.25 beats

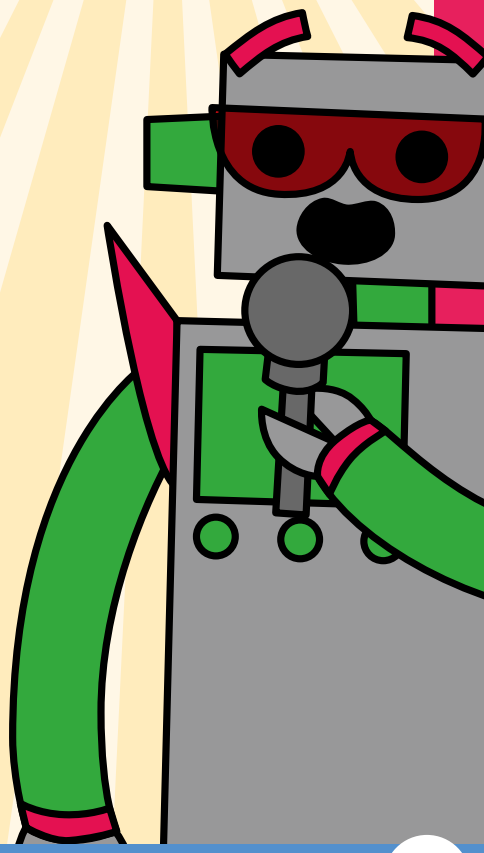


ROBOT SINGER

When the robot is clicked, it changes its costume before playing a sound. Once the sound has finished, the robot changes back to the first costume.

This block waits until the sound has finished playing before moving on to the next one

```
when this sprite clicked
switch costume to [Robot-b]
play sound [human beatbox1] until done
switch costume to [Robot-a]
```



PIANO

When the piano is clicked, four notes are played one after the other.

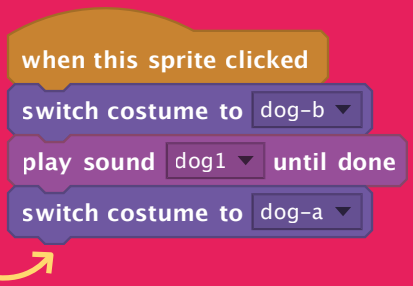
```
when this sprite clicked
play note [60] for [0.5] beats
play note [62] for [0.5] beats
play note [64] for [0.5] beats
play note [60] for [0.5] beats
```

Now You Could Make...

With the skills you've learnt, why not try these projects?

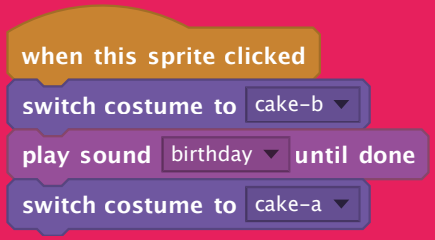
SOUNDBOARD

Fill the stage with lots of different sprites that make a noise or play some music when clicked.



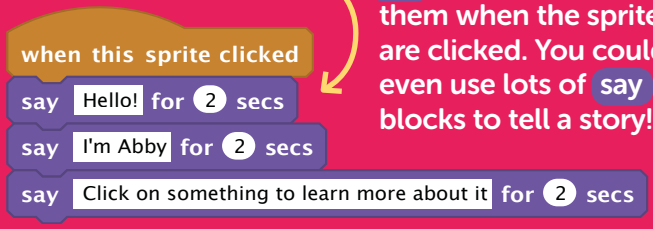
INTERACTIVE BIRTHDAY CARD

Create an interactive birthday card for a friend. You could play them a song or even record your own personalised message.



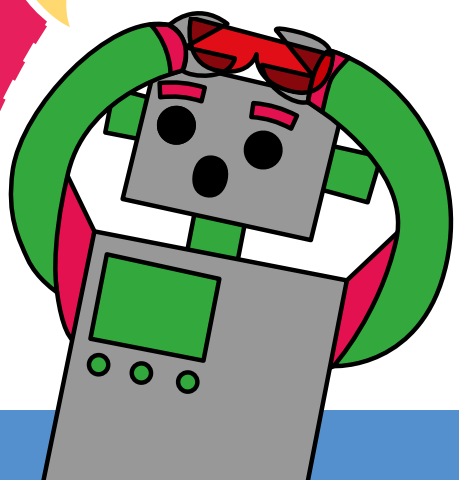
ABOUT YOU

Create a project to tell people more about you. You could add sprites for your favourite hobbies and interests, and use say blocks to talk about them when the sprites are clicked. You could even use lots of say blocks to tell a story!



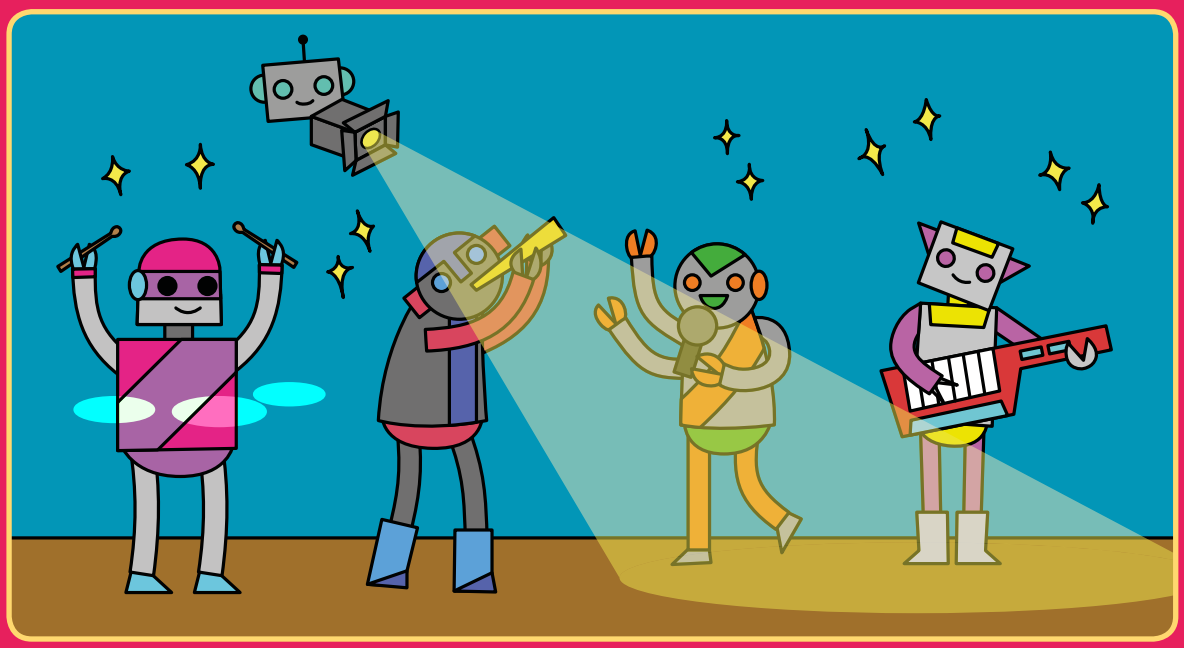
Fancy heading out into space?

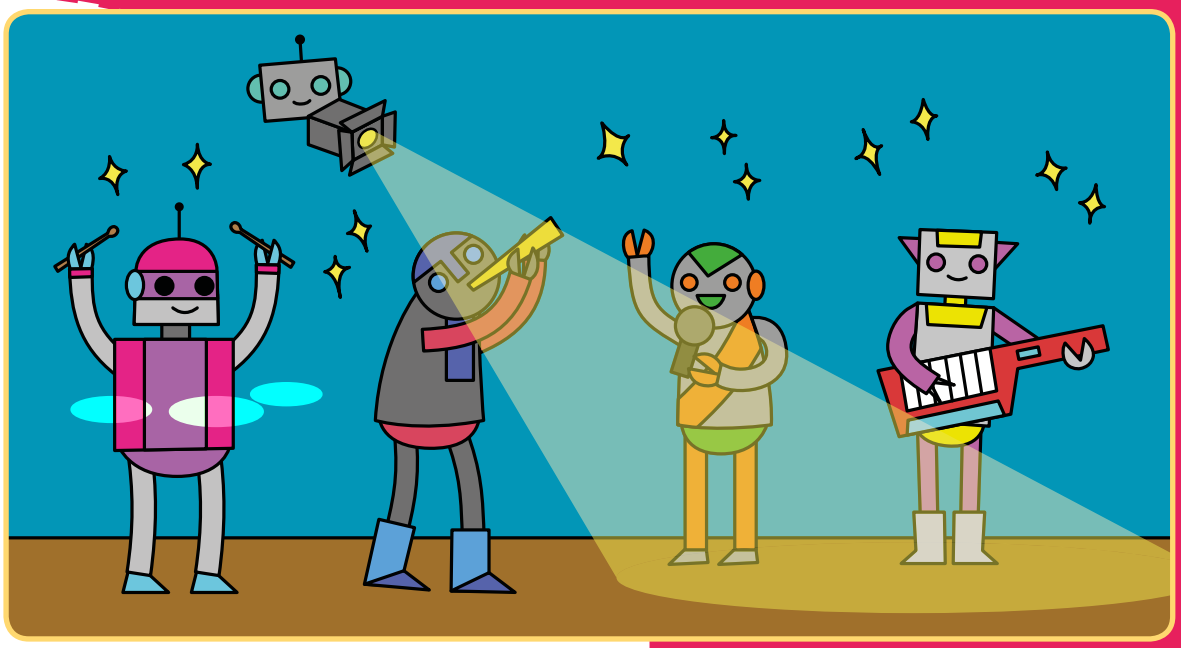
Turn the page to find out how...



Spot the Difference

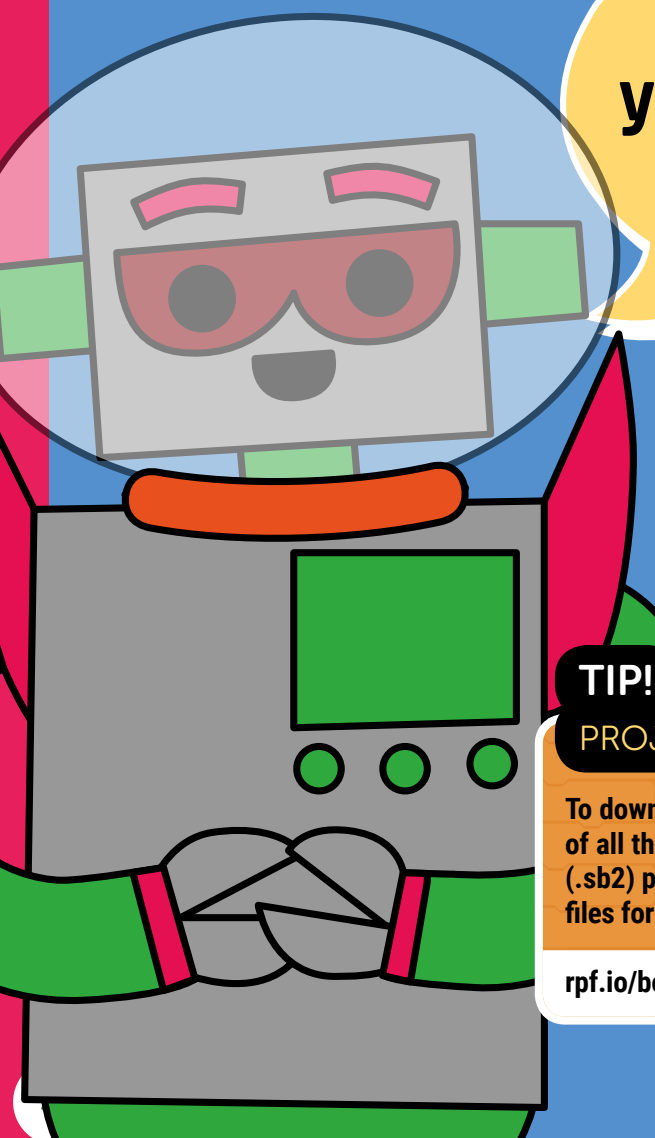
There are ten differences between these two images. Can you spot them all? Answers on page 110.





Lost in Space

Create your own space-themed animation, including spaceships, asteroids, and floating space-monkeys



Time to launch your next project!

We're heading to outer space for this one!

In this chapter you'll learn how to use loops to animate sprites. You'll code a spaceship that travels back to Earth, a floating monkey astronaut, an asteroid, and a shining star.

TIP!

PROJECT FILES

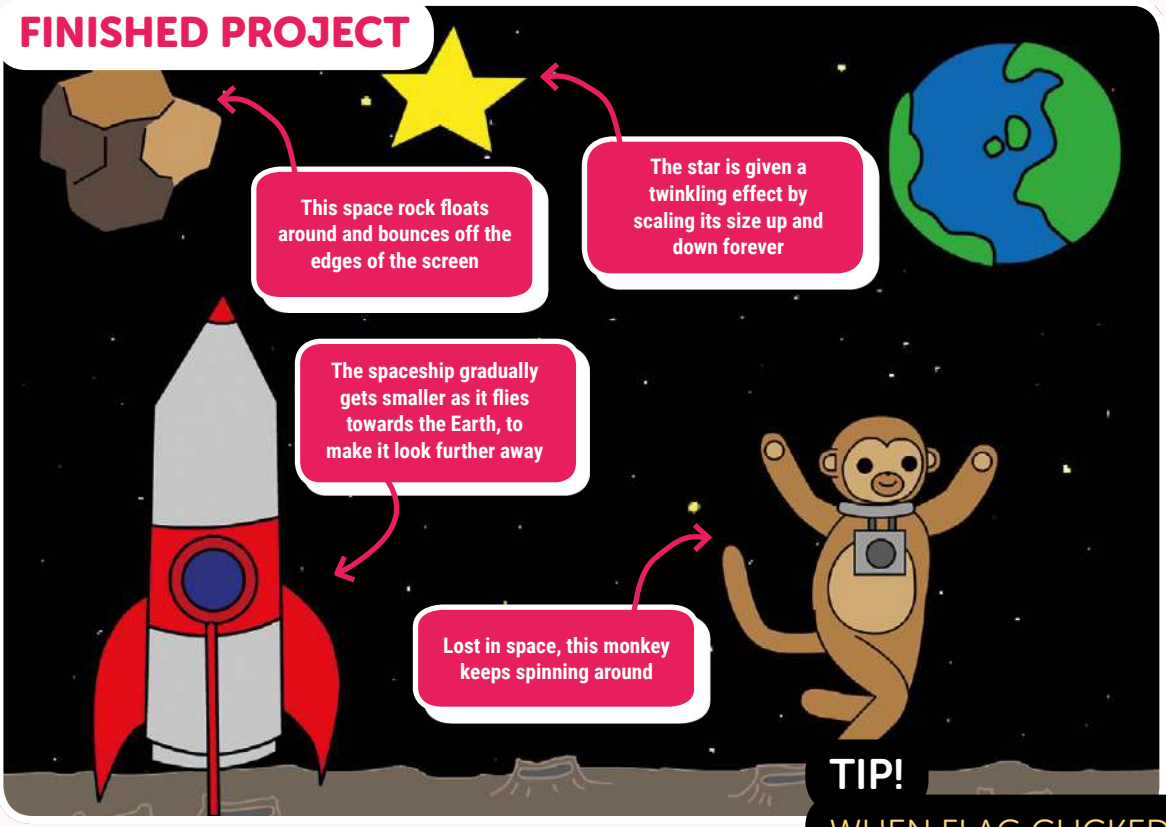
To download a zip file of all the Scratch 2 (.sb2) project assets files for this book, go to:

rpf.io/book-s1-assets

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

- Moving sprites around the stage
- Repetition (loops):
  - `repeat` block
  - `forever` block

FINISHED PROJECT

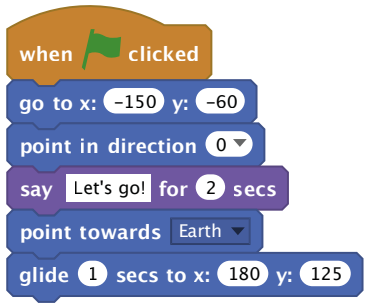


STEP 1: ANIMATE A SPACESHIP

Let's start by making a spaceship that flies towards the Earth.

- [ ] In a web browser, go to **rpf.io/book-lostinspace** to open the Lost in Space project.

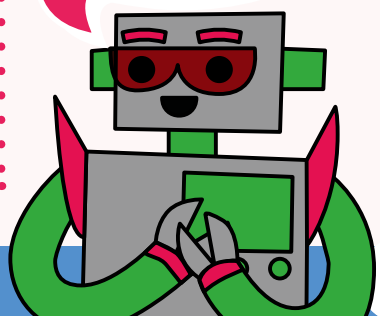
- [ ] Click on the Spaceship sprite and add the following code:



TIP!

WHEN FLAG CLICKED

Any code attached to a when clicked block will be run when the project first starts. You can use this event to start code, rather than waiting for the user to click a sprite or press a key.



CHALLENGE

SPEED UP YOUR SPACESHIP

Can you make the spaceship move faster (or slower) towards the Earth?

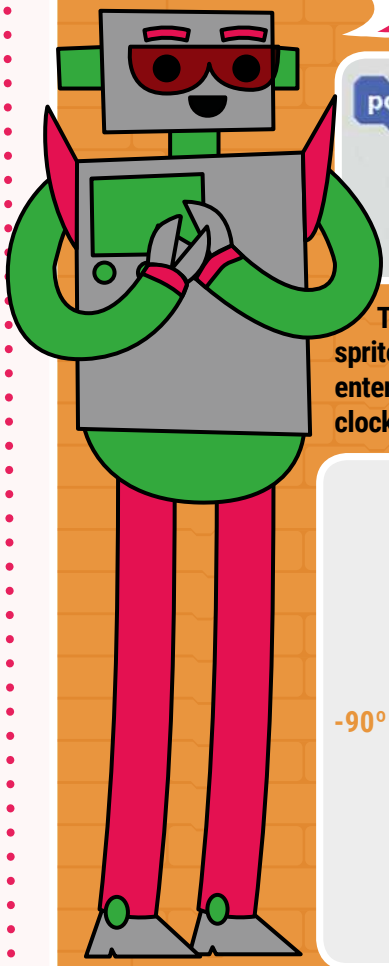
HINT!

TIP! CO-ORDINATES

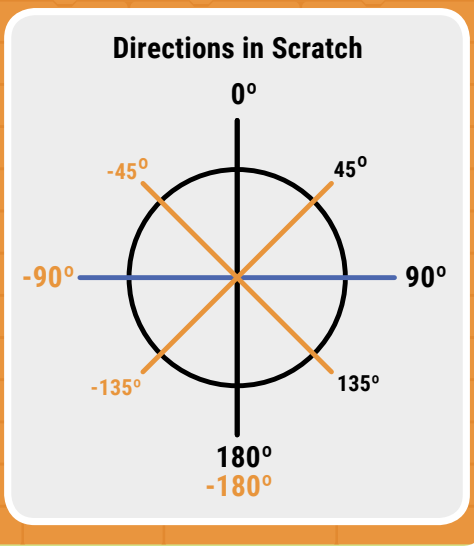
The numbers in the go to and glide blocks are x and y co-ordinates for setting a sprite's position on the stage. You'll learn more about co-ordinates in the 'On Target' chapter.

TIP! DIRECTION

If you click the down arrow in the point in direction block, you can see that there are numbers that represent directions.



This number is the angle that a sprite is facing (in degrees). You can enter any number between 0 and 180 clockwise, or 0 to -180 anti-clockwise.



What number would you need to enter in the point in direction block for the spaceship sprite to face this way? _____

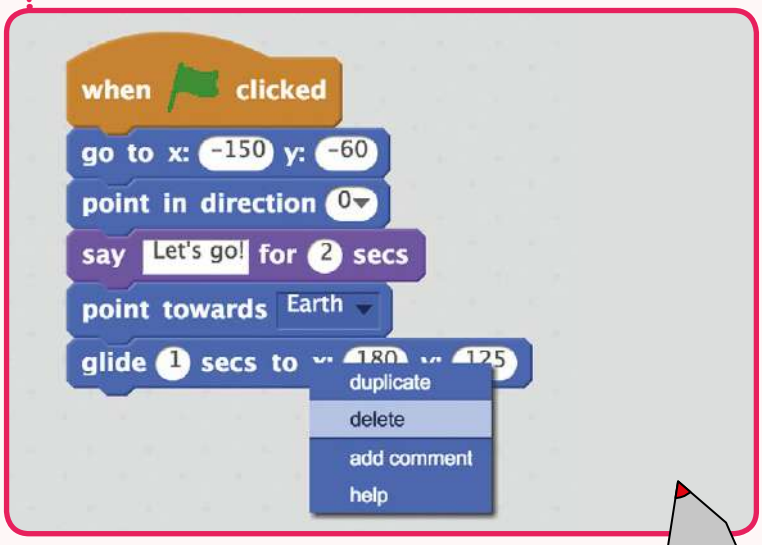
TEST YOUR PROJECT

To test your code, you can either click on the green flag just above the stage, or just click on the script itself. You should see your spaceship sprite speak, turn, and move towards the Earth.

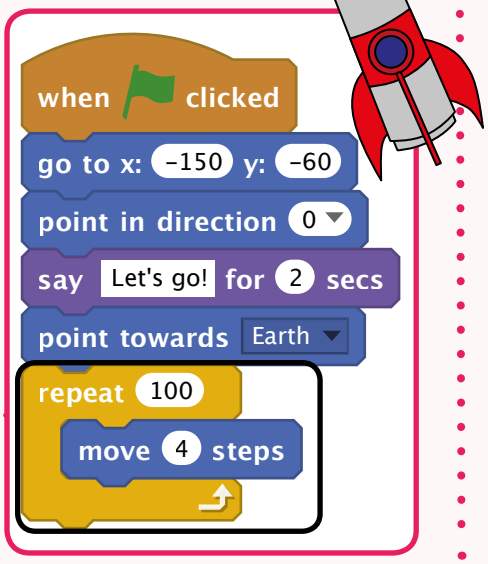
STEP 2: ANIMATING USING LOOPS

Now that you know how to write code to move sprites, let's use a 'repeat' block to create more interesting animations.

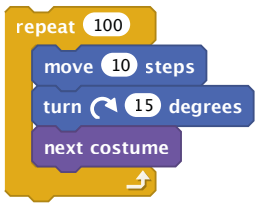
Delete the glide block from your spaceship script by right-clicking on the block and clicking **delete**. You can also delete code by dragging it off the script area, back into the blocks palette on the left of the editor.



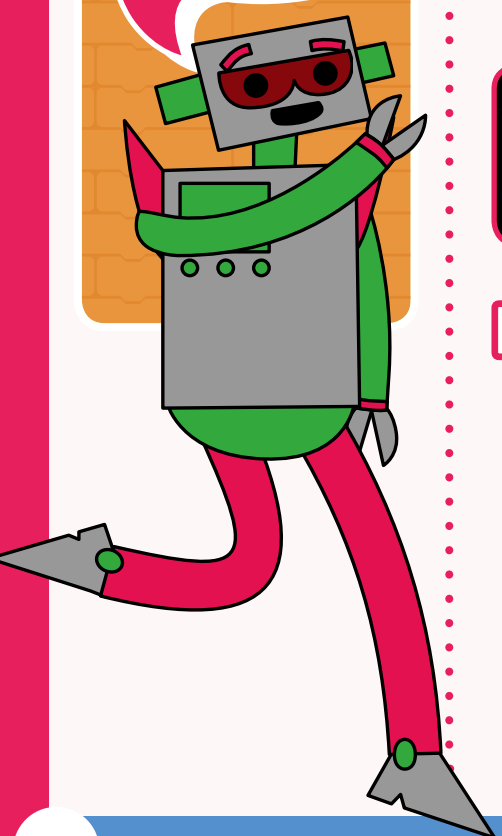
Once you've removed the glide block, add a move block inside a repeat block instead. This code will move your spaceship a small amount, lots of times!



TIP!
REPEAT BLOCKS



A **repeat** block runs the code inside it repeatedly, a set number of times, or until a certain condition is met. Repeating code lots of times is sometimes called a 'loop', as the code loops back to the start of the repeat block once it gets to the end. A **forever** block repeats the code inside it forever.

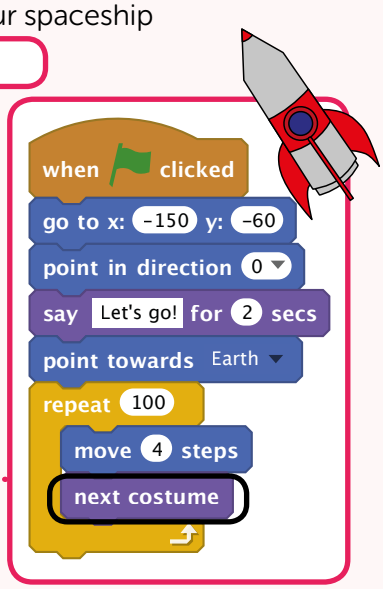


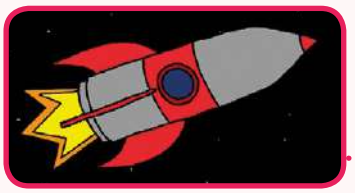
If you click the green flag to try out this new code, you'll see that it does pretty much the same thing as before.

In your new code, how many times does your spaceship move?

How many steps does your spaceship move each time?

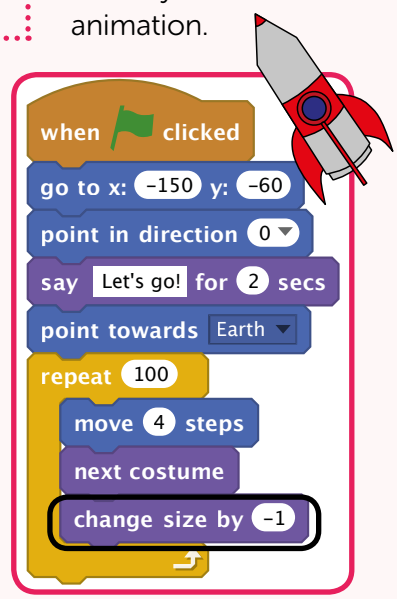
You can add more code to your loop, to change how your spaceship looks as it moves. Add the **next costume** block (from the Looks category), to repeatedly change the spaceship's costume as it moves.





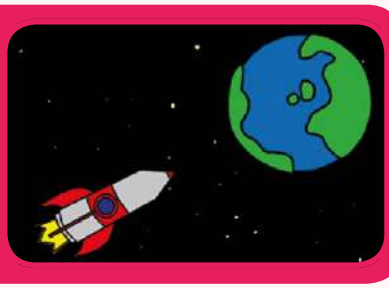
Click the green flag to test your new animation.

As well as changing the spaceship's costume, you could also make it appear to get smaller as it moves towards the Earth.

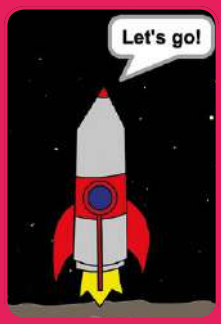


TEST YOUR PROJECT

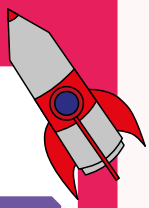
Your spaceship should slowly get smaller as it moves towards the Earth.

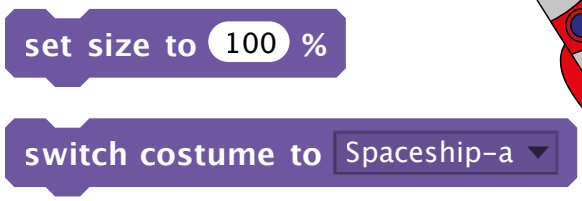


What happens if you click the flag a second time? Does your spaceship start the right size? You might also notice that sometimes your spaceship starts out using the wrong costume.



Can you add these blocks to the start of your animation to fix the problem?





DEBUG

DEBUG YOUR CODE

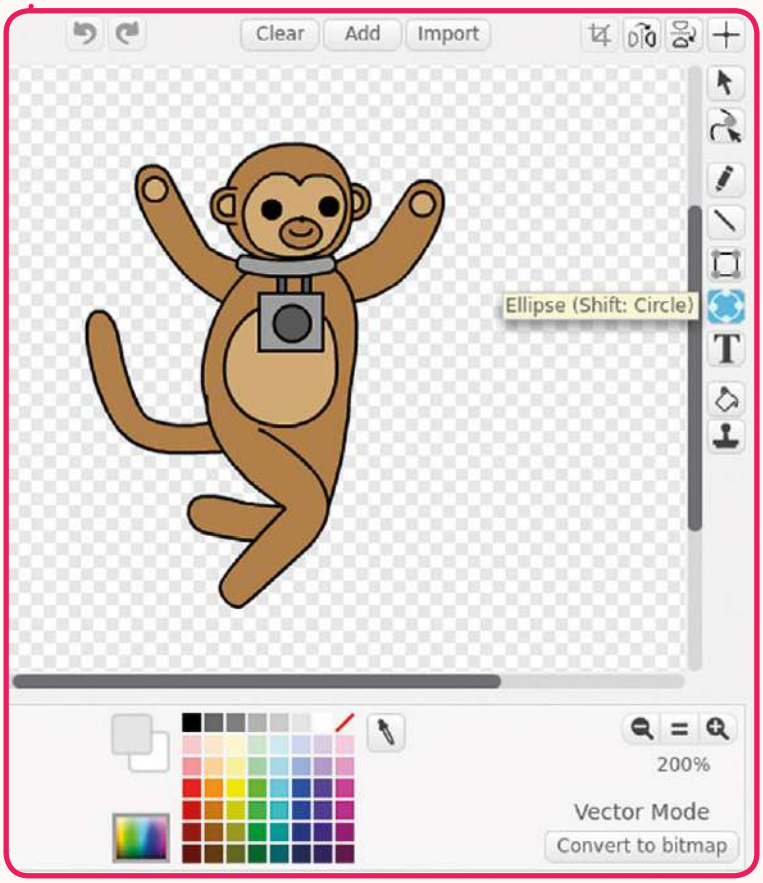
Problems with your code are called 'bugs', and spotting and fixing those problems is known as 'debugging'. When writing code, you might often find that your projects don't do what you want them to do first time.

Having a bug in your code is nothing to worry about – it happens to programmers all the time! In fact, fixing bugs is a great time to learn more about coding and how your project works.

STEP 3: FLOATING MONKEY

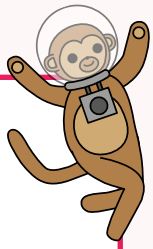
Now we'll add a monkey to your animation, who's lost in space!

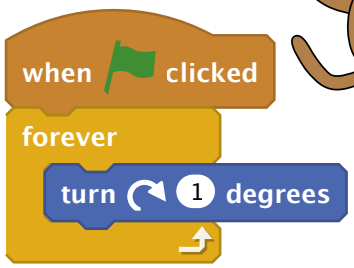
Let's start by making the monkey look more like an astronaut! Click on the Monkey sprite and then click the **Costumes** tab. Click the **Ellipse** tool in the paint editor and choose a colour which will show up against the stage backdrop.



Use the Ellipse tool to draw a space helmet around the monkey's head, by clicking and dragging the mouse.

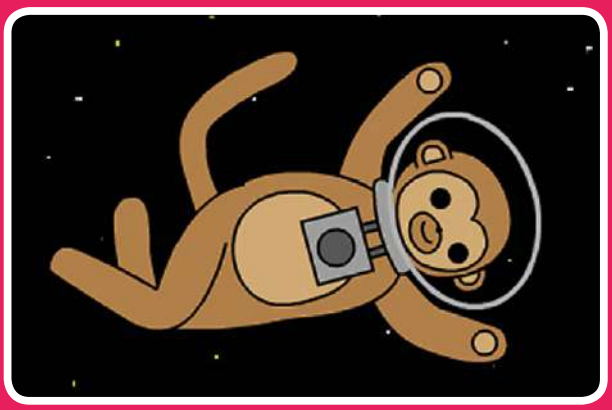
Next, click the **Scripts** tab and add code to the monkey, so that it spins slowly in a circle forever.





TEST YOUR PROJECT

Click the flag to test your monkey sprite.



As you've coded the animation to run forever, you'll have to click the red stop button (next to the green flag) to stop this animation.

CHALLENGE

IMPROVE YOUR MONKEY ANIMATION

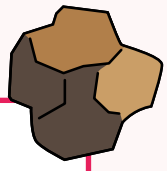
Can you make your monkey sprite spin faster?

Can you make the sprite get smaller as it spins, so that it looks as though it's floating away?

HINT!

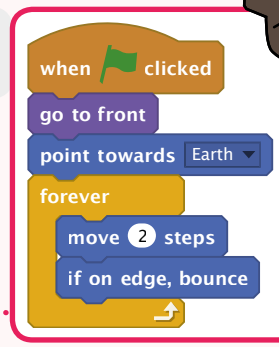
Change the number in the 'turn' block to change the speed at which the monkey spins, and use a 'change size' block to make the monkey get smaller, just as you did with your spaceship.

STEP 4: BOUNCING ASTEROIDS



Let's add some floating space-rock to your animation.

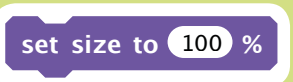
Click on the Asteroid sprite and add this code to make the asteroid bounce around the screen.



DEBUG

DEBUGGING YOUR STAR SPRITE

If your star sprite ends up getting too big or too small, you can add a 'set size' block at the start of your script to reset its size.



CHALLENGE

MAKE YOUR OWN ANIMATION

After you've finished your space animation, click File and then New, to start a new project.

Use what you've learnt in this project to make your own animation. It can be anything you like, but try to make your animation match the setting.

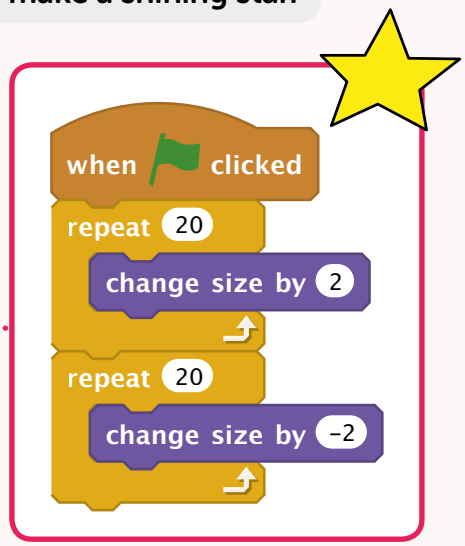
TEST YOUR CODE

If you click the green flag to test your asteroid animation, you should see it bounce around the stage.

STEP 5: SHINING STAR

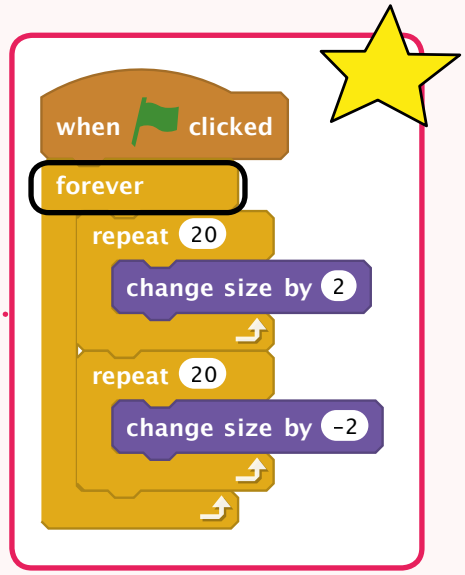
Let's combine loops to make a shining star.

- [ ] Click on the Star sprite and add this code to make the star slowly get larger and then smaller again.



- [ ] Test your code; your star sprite should slowly get larger and then smaller.

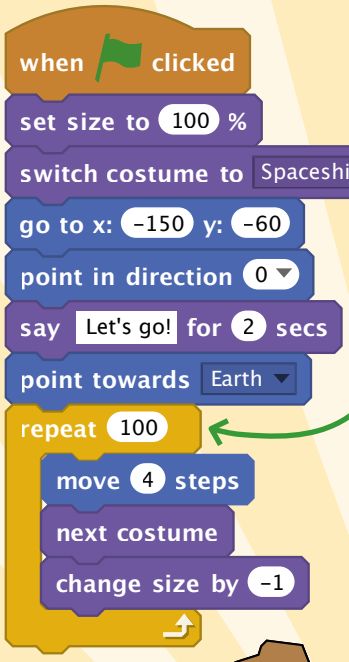
- [ ] To make the star change size repeatedly, you can add a **forever** block around the code.



LOST IN SPACE FULL CODE LISTING

SPACESHIP

The spaceship launches and then heads for Earth.



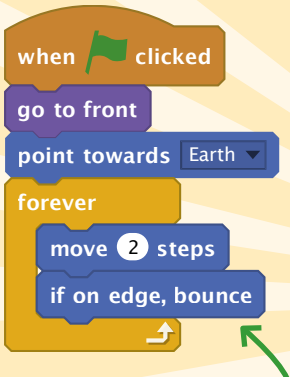
This loop makes the spaceship move repeatedly while switching costumes and getting smaller

MONKEY

The astronaut monkey is set to spin forever in space!

ASTEROID

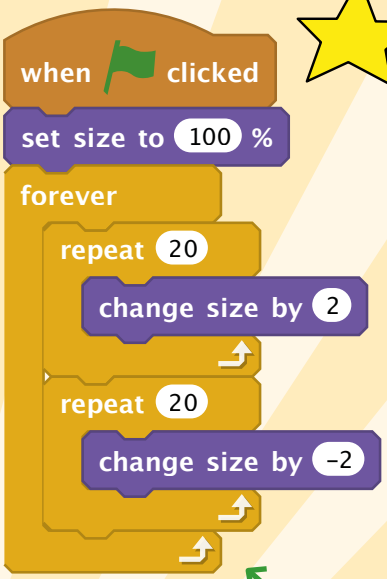
This piece of space-rock bounces around the screen.



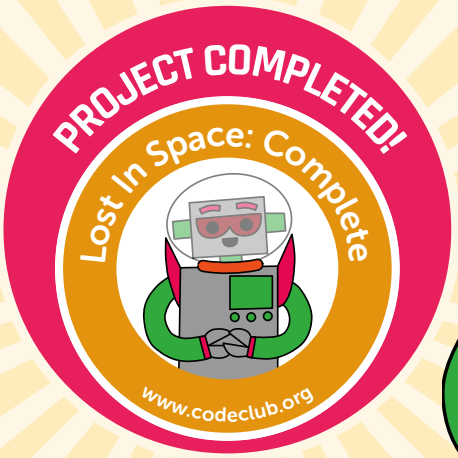
Whenever the sprite hits the edge of the stage, it'll bounce off

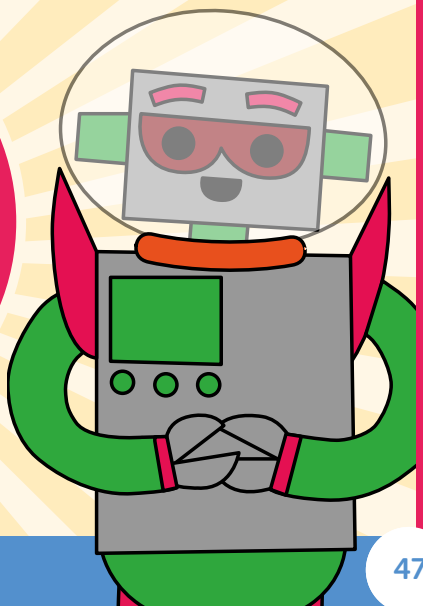
STAR

The star twinkles in the night sky.



Two repeat loops cause the star to get bigger, then smaller again



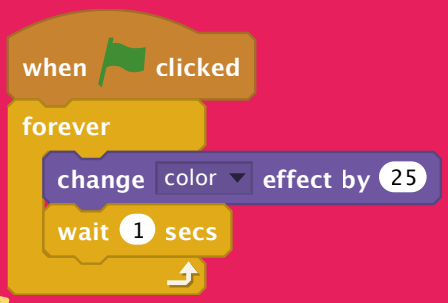


Now You Could Make...

With the skills you've learnt, why not try these projects?

PARTY

Animate balloons and create multicoloured disco lights. You could even create some party music.

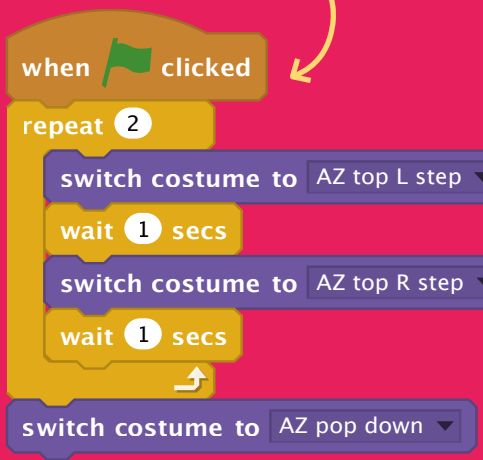


WALKING SPRITES

Some sprites, such as 'Pico walking', have a set of costumes for creating a walking animation.

DANCE MOVES

Code a sprite to dance along to some music by changing costumes and moving around the stage.



Lost In Space

Answers on p110

Can you find all the words in the grid, including a lost monkey?

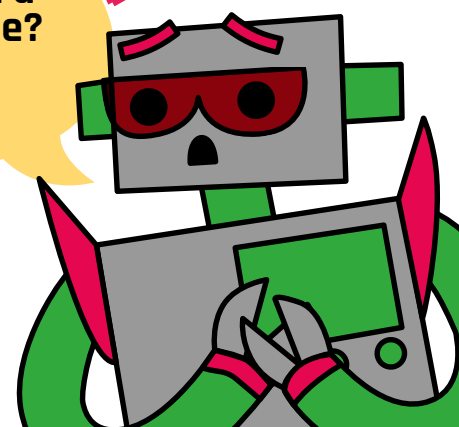
B	E	O	J	E	A	E	C	A	T	E	S	P	S	R
R	B	Y	E	U	R	P	O	A	S	R	S	O	C	T
A	B	S	A	M	P	O	M	T	L	T	A	O	R	T
P	E	C	R	B	A	I	E	S	E	N	R	E	L	U
T	A	G	N	M	L	O	T	C	A	A	P	D	I	N
A	V	S	T	M	O	N	K	E	Y	T	P	I	T	E
O	M	O	O	U	M	I	J	R	R	E	U	O	S	U
A	L	O	T	P	N	E	G	K	U	C	E	R	O	T
N	N	E	B	U	L	A	U	A	C	L	K	E	N	R
X	O	X	E	T	L	A	U	T	R	I	O	T	E	M
G	A	R	K	A	V	O	N	R	E	P	U	S	U	R
Y	R	E	X	R	O	E	T	E	M	S	T	A	R	E
R	A	Y	P	E	E	X	A	U	T	E	K	C	O	R
T	C	A	E	T	E	C	K	U	U	S	C	K	P	E
T	Y	R	Y	M	S	S	G	R	L	O	O	E	N	E

WORDS TO FIND

ASTEROID
COMET
ECLIPSE
GALAXY
JUPITER
MERCURY
METEOR
MONKEY
MOON
NEBULA
PLANET
ROCKET
SATURN
STAR
SUPERNOVA

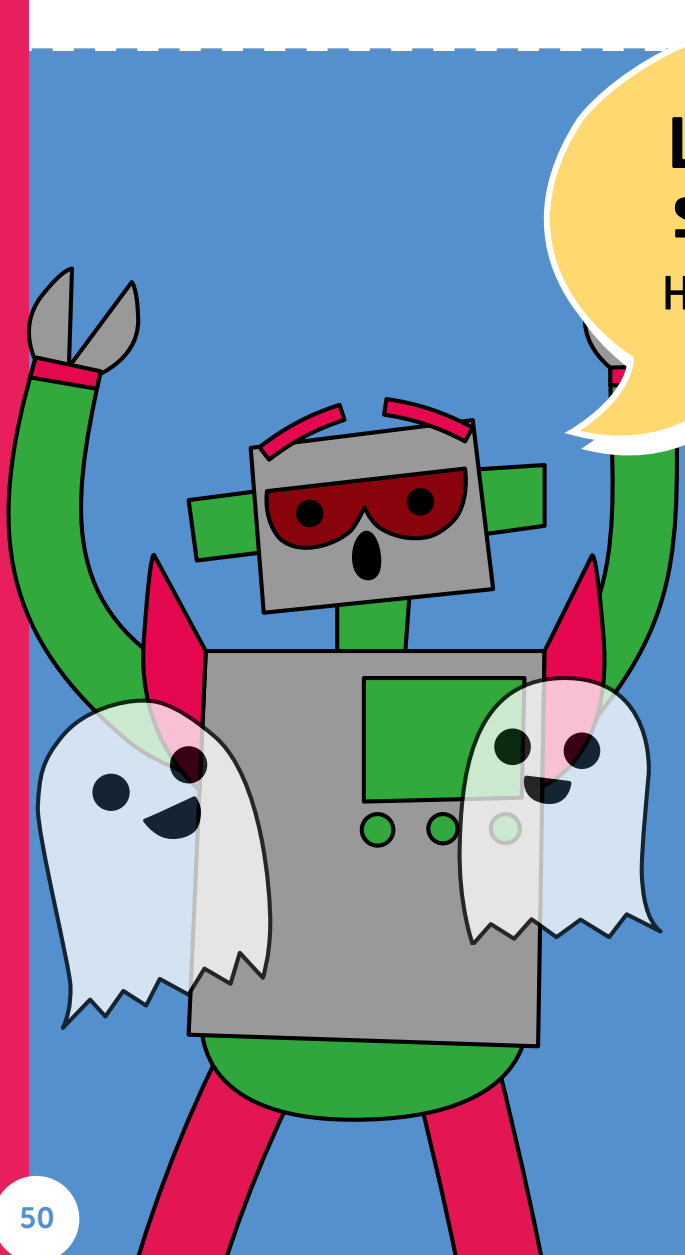
Want to code a ghoulish game?

Turn the page if you dare...



Ghost Catcher

Create a ghost-catching game, in which players score points by clicking on sprites as they move around the stage



You'll make use of a 'variable' to keep track of the player's score as they gain (and lose) points. You'll also create a timer, so that players are in a race against time.

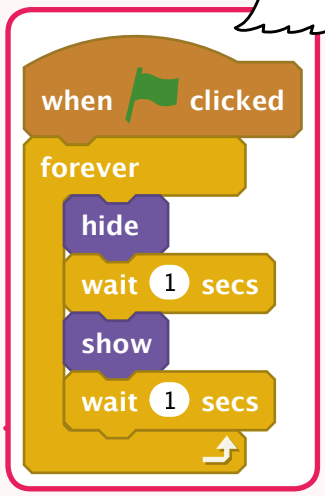
FINISHED PROJECT

STEP 1: ANIMATE A GHOST

Let's start by animating a ghost.

- [ ] Open a web browser and go to **rpf.io/book-ghostcatcher** to open the Ghost Catcher project.

- [ ] Click on the Ghost sprite, and add code to make it repeatedly appear and disappear forever.



TIP!

PROJECT FILES

To download a zip file of all the Scratch 2 (.sb2) project assets files for this book, go to:

rpf.io/book-s1-assets

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

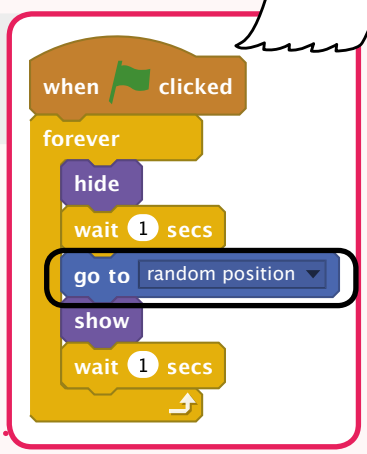
- Variables
- Random numbers

TEST YOUR PROJECT

Click the green flag to test your code. You should see your ghost appear and disappear every second.

STEP 2: RANDOM GHOSTS

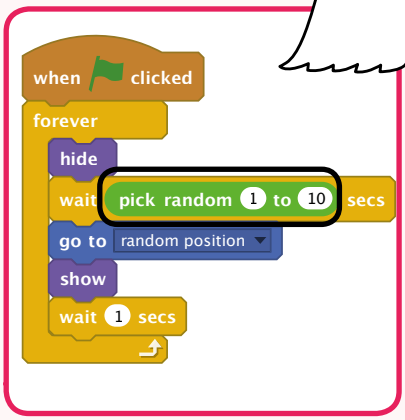
Move your ghost around the stage, so that it's harder to catch!



- Instead of staying in the same position, you can let Scratch choose a random position for the ghost sprite before it appears each time.

- Test your code. Does your ghost sprite move around the stage?

- Your ghost always waits exactly 1 second before appearing and disappearing. To change this, grab a **pick random** block from the green Operators category and place it inside the first **wait** block, replacing the 1.



CHALLENGE

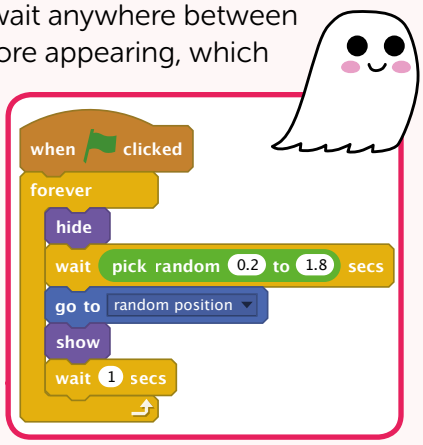
MORE RANDOMNESS

Can you make your ghost appear on the screen for a random amount of time? Can you make the ghost a random size each time it appears?

HINT!

You'll need to add another 'random' block to your second 'wait' block for a random ghost size, and add a 'random' block to a 'set size to' block.

- [ ] Your ghost will now wait anywhere between 1 and 10 seconds before appearing, which is a long time! Change the numbers in your **pick random** block until you're happy with how often your ghost appears.

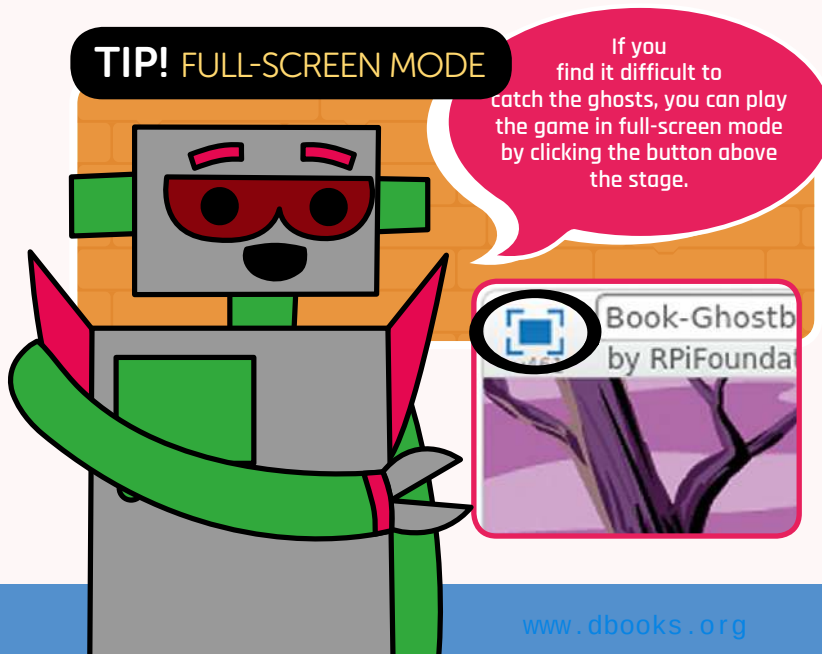


STEP 3: CATCHING GHOSTS

Let's allow the player to catch ghosts!

- [ ] Add code to allow the player to catch a ghost.

- [ ] Test out your project. Can you catch ghosts as they appear on the stage?



CHALLENGE

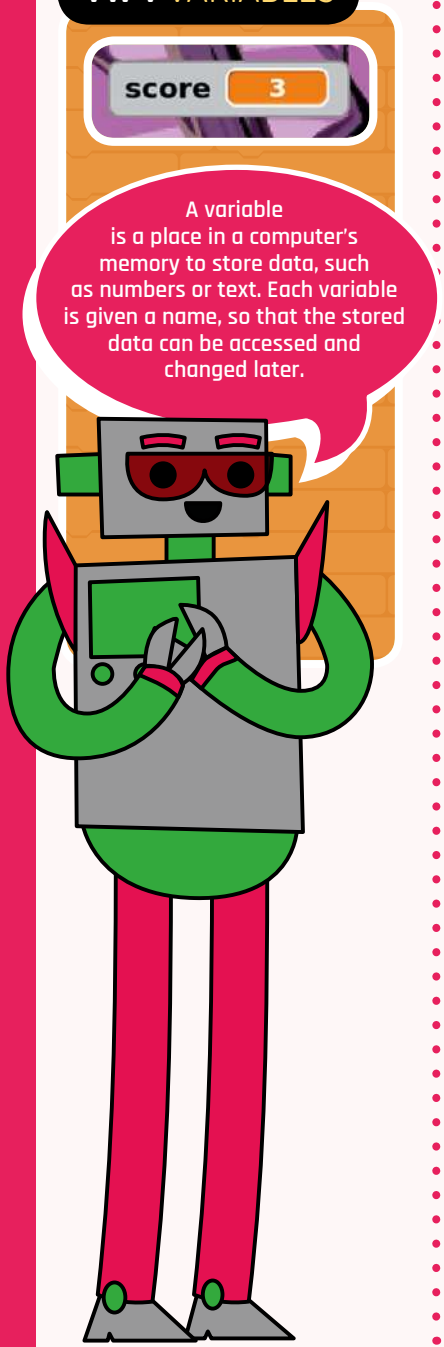
ADD A SOUND

Can you play a sound each time a ghost is caught?

HINT!

You'll need to add a play sound block to your when this sprite clicked script.

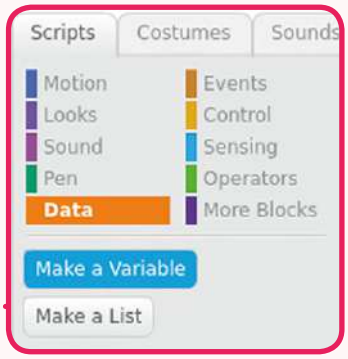
TIP! VARIABLES



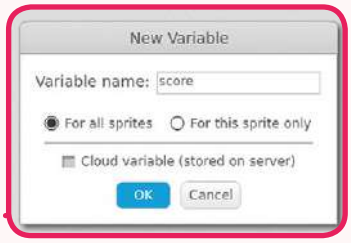
STEP 4: ADD A SCORE

Let's make things more interesting by keeping score.

- To keep the player's score, you'll need to create a variable. Click the bright orange **Data** category in the blocks palette and then click **Make a Variable**.



- Type **score** as the name of the variable, make sure that it is available for all sprites, and click **OK** to create it.



- You should now see lots of code blocks that can be used with your score variable.

- You'll also see the score in the top-left of the stage.

When a new game is started (by clicking the flag), you should set the player's score to 0. Add this code to the Stage in order to set the score at the start of the game.

Whenever a ghost is caught, you need to add 1 to the player's score. Add this code to your Ghost sprite.

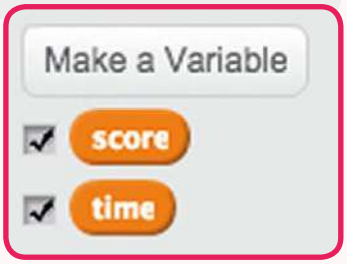
TEST YOUR PROJECT

Test your program and try to catch some ghosts. Does your score change each time you click on a ghost?

STEP 5: ADD A TIMER

You can make your game more interesting, by only giving your player 10 seconds to catch as many ghosts as possible.

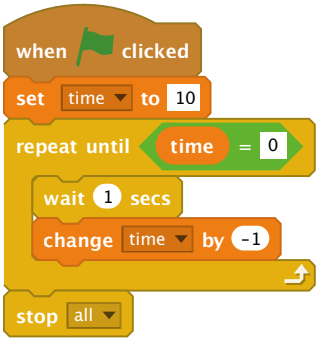
You can use another variable to store the remaining time left. Make a new variable called **time**.



This is how the timer should work:

- The timer should start at 10 seconds;
- The timer should count down every second;
- The game should stop when the timer gets to 0.

Add the following new script to your Stage. The (=) block is found in the Operators category.



Drag your **time** variable display to the right side of the stage. You can also right-click on the variable display and choose **large readout** to change how the time is displayed.

CHALLENGE

MORE RANDOMNESS

Ask a friend to test your game. Change the numbers in your game if they found it too easy or too hard.

What numbers did you decide on?

HINT!

Give the player less time.
Make the ghosts appear less often.
Make the ghosts smaller.

CHALLENGE

MORE OBJECTS

Can you add other objects to your game? You can right-click on the sprites in the sprite list and click 'show' to make them appear on the stage. You don't have to use those sprites, though: you can add any other sprites you want from the Scratch library.

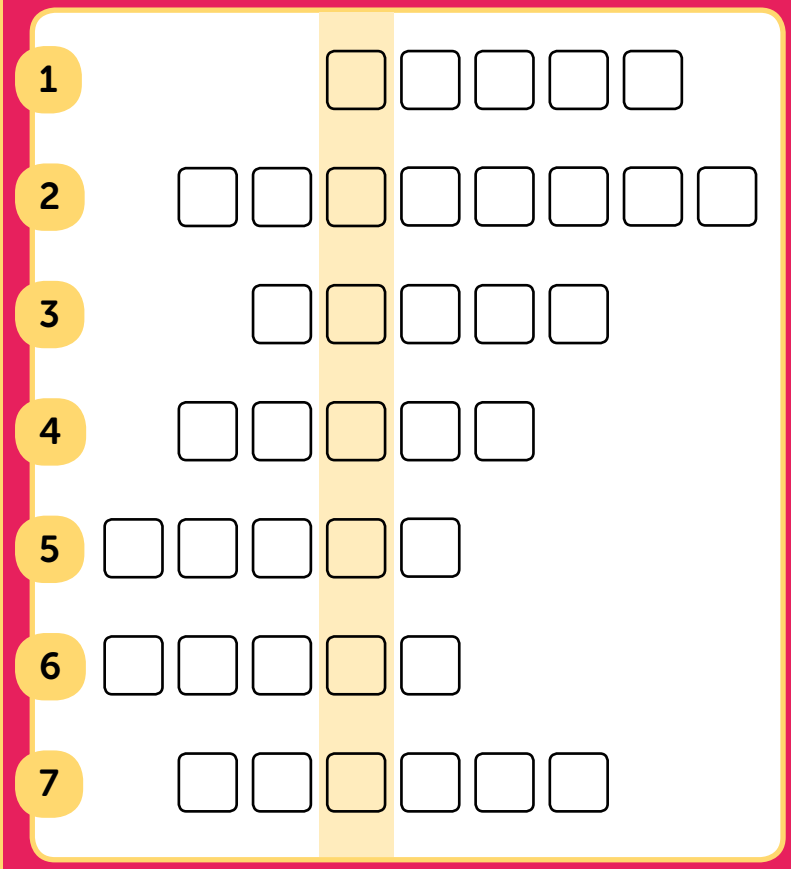
Before you get started, you could complete the table below.

	What size will it be?	How often will it appear?	What happens when it has been caught?	How many points will you score (or lose) for catching it?
GHOST	Between 40% and 80%	Between every 0.2 and 1.8 seconds	Plays a 'pop' sound	1 point scored

Enter the Crypt!

Solve the fiendish cryptic clues to find monsters. Place them in the grid to reveal another ghastly creature in the shaded squares.

Answers on p110



CLUES

1. Charming host conceals apparition
2. We're wolfing down food, hairy howler
3. Evil spirit hidden in crude montage
4. Mum, my ancient Egyptian is bandaged
5. Ugly cave dweller takes a stroll outdoors
6. Rude, vile rascal with horns!
7. 'I've got a bun! Yippee!' yelled Australian swamp monster

HINT!

All the answers are concealed within the clues – look carefully and you'll find them!

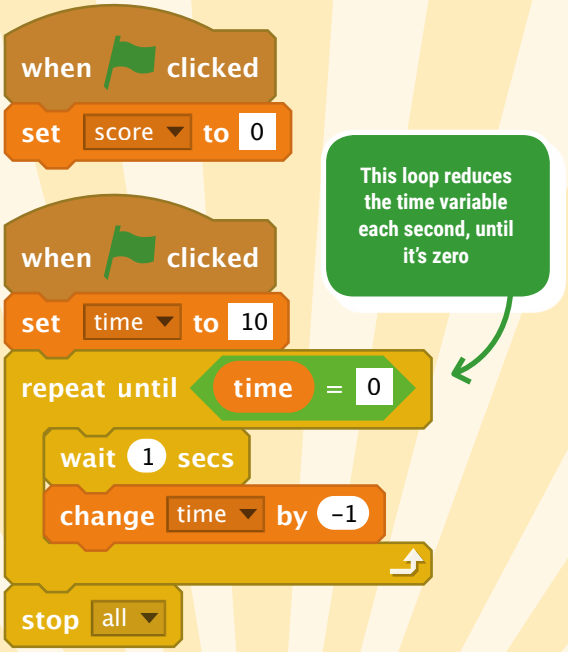
The hidden creature is a...

.....

GHOST CATCHER FULL CODE LISTING

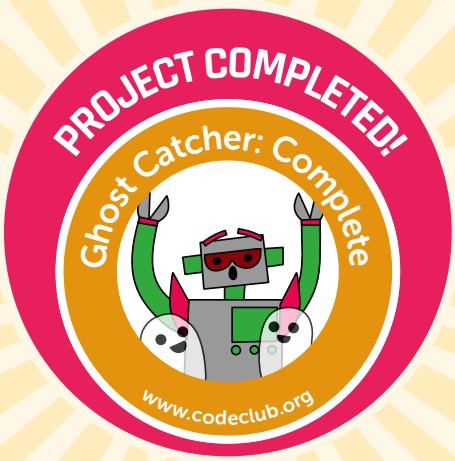
STAGE

The Stage scripts reset the score to zero and handle the timer.



GHOST

The Ghost sprite has two scripts: one to make it appear in a random position, and another for the player to 'catch' it.

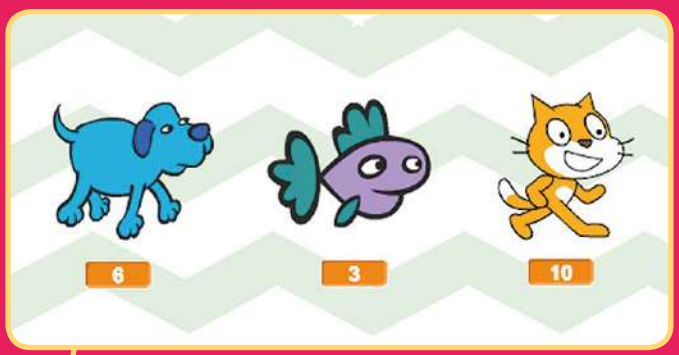


Now You Could Make...

With your new coding skills, you could try these projects...

VOTING APP

Create a sprite and a variable for each choice, and let your friends vote on their favourite! You could even add a reset button to set the votes back to zero.




```
when this sprite clicked
change [dog votes] by (1)
set [fisheye] effect to (50)
play sound [dog1] until done
set [fisheye] effect to (0)
```

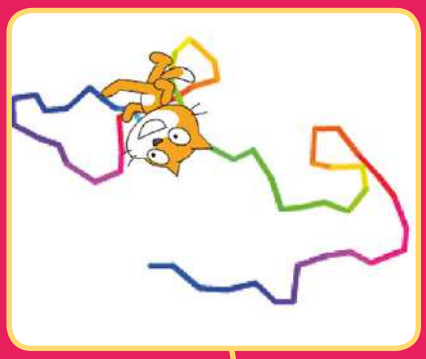
PLAYER CHOOSER

Allow players to randomly choose a character by randomly changing its costume when the sprite is clicked.


```
when this sprite clicked
switch costume to (pick random (1) to (4))
set [player chosen] to (costume name) of [Player]
say (player chosen) for (2) secs
```

RANDOM ART

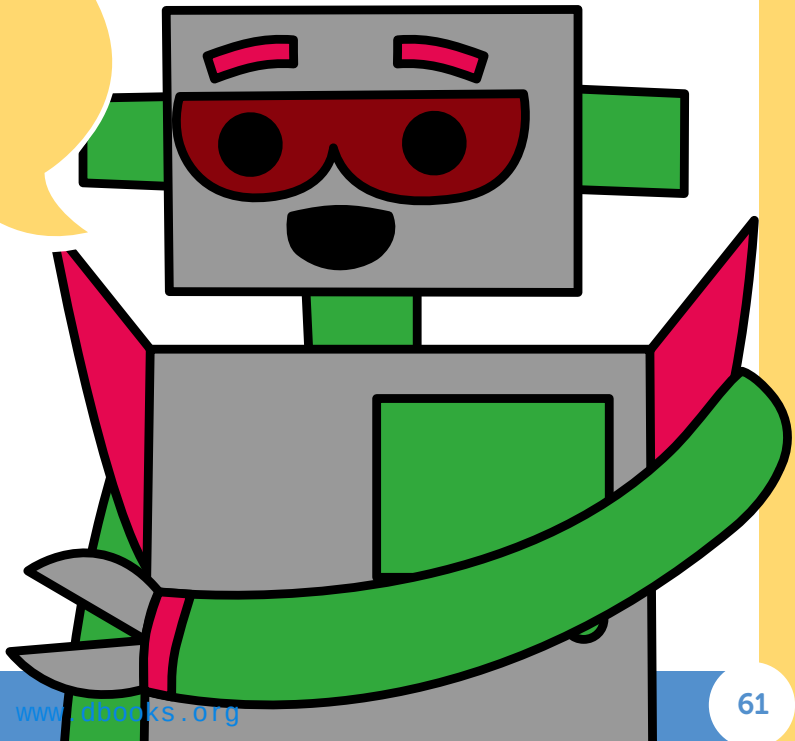
Use pick random blocks with blocks from the Pen category to create unique works of art!



```
when this sprite clicked
pen down
repeat pick random 40 to 100
    move pick random 10 to 20 steps
    turn ↻ pick random -90 to 90 degrees
    change pen color by pick random 1 to 10
pen up
```

Need to talk to someone?

Turn the page to create a chatbot...

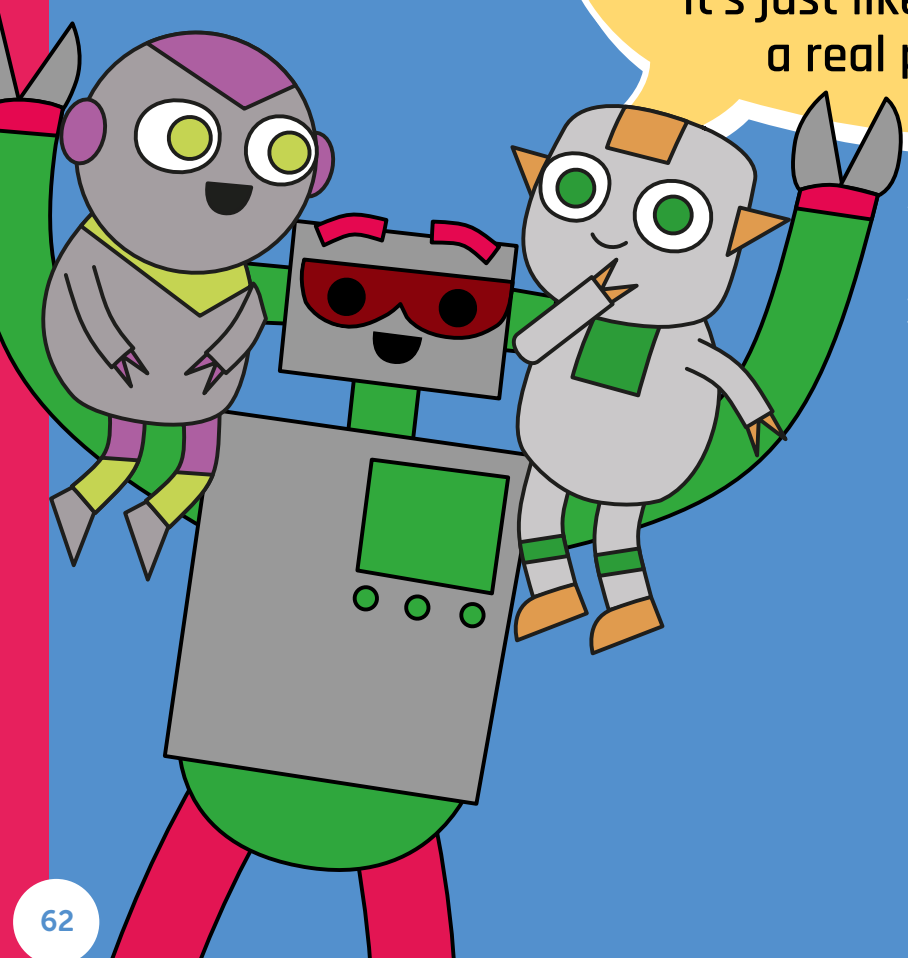


Chatbot

Create your own talking character that asks questions and responds to the answers you give it

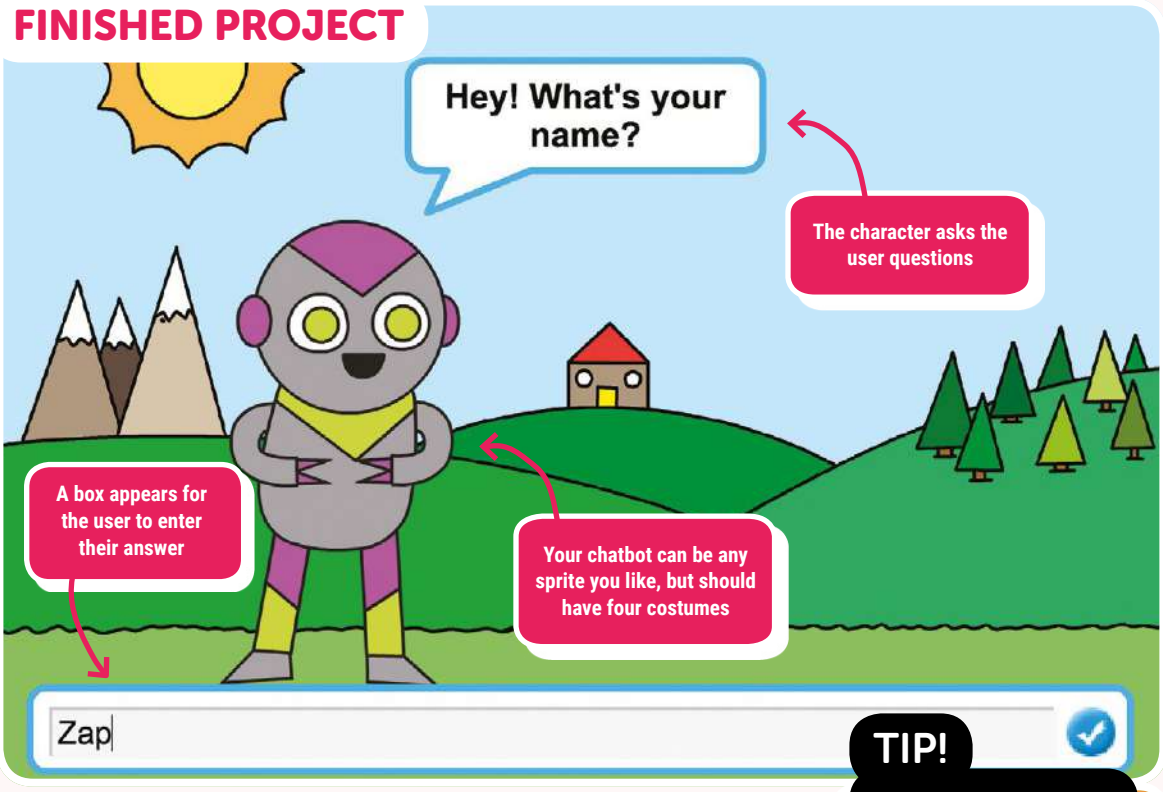
Program your own chatbot!

It's just like talking to a real person!



You will learn how to add 'selection' to your code by using **if** and **if...else** blocks to change how your character responds, depending on the answers given.

FINISHED PROJECT



STEP 1: YOUR CHATBOT

Choose your character's personality and look.

Before you start making your chatbot, you need to decide on its personality. Think about:

- What is their name?

. . . . . .

- Where do they live?

. . . . . .

- Are they happy? serious? funny? shy? friendly?

. . . . . .

- What do they like and dislike?

. . . . . .

TIP!

PROJECT FILES

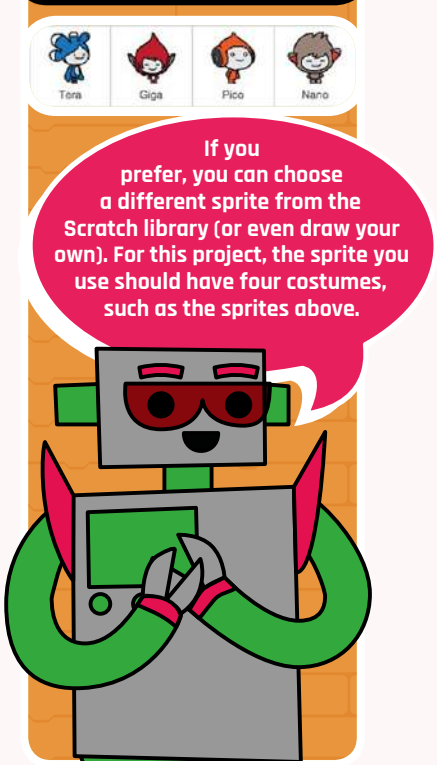
To download a zip file of all the Scratch 2 (.sb2) project assets files for this book, go to:

rpf.io/book-s1-assets

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

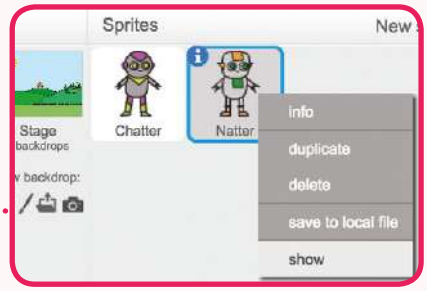
- Selection (`if` and `if...else` blocks)
- Keyboard input using the `ask` block
- Using the `join` block to join text together

TIP! CHOOSING YOUR OWN SPRITE



- [ ] Open a web browser and go to **rpf.io/book-chatbot** to open the Chatbot project. Click the Remix button.

- [ ] There are two characters in the sprite list: Chatter and Natter. If you prefer to use the Natter sprite, then you can right-click and **show** the sprite. You can also right-click to **hide** the Chatter sprite.

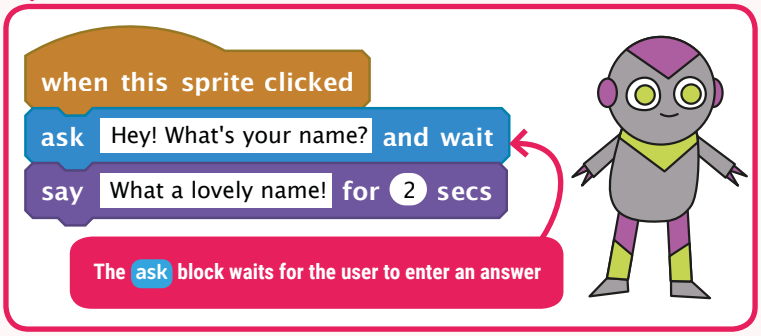


- [ ] Choose a stage backdrop to match your chatbot's personality. There are already two to choose from, or you can select a different backdrop from the Scratch library. We're sticking with the Outside backdrop

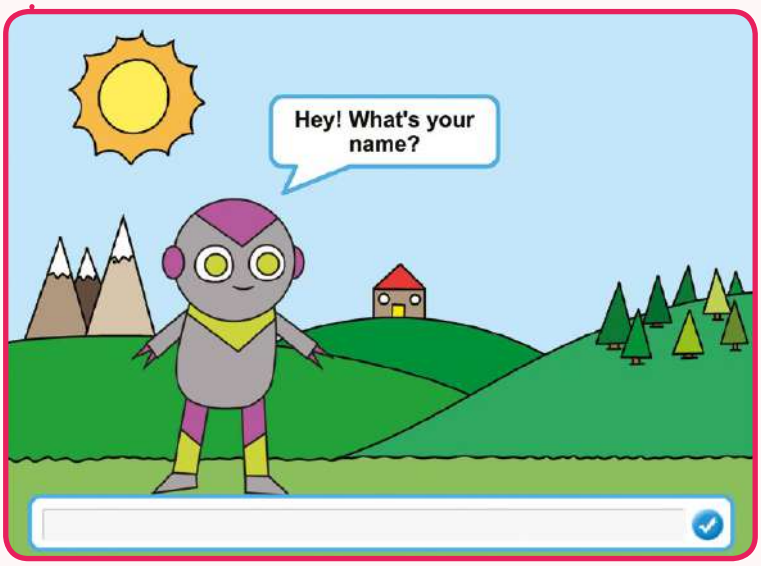
STEP 2: A TALKING CHATBOT

Now that you have a chatbot with a personality, let's program it to talk to you.

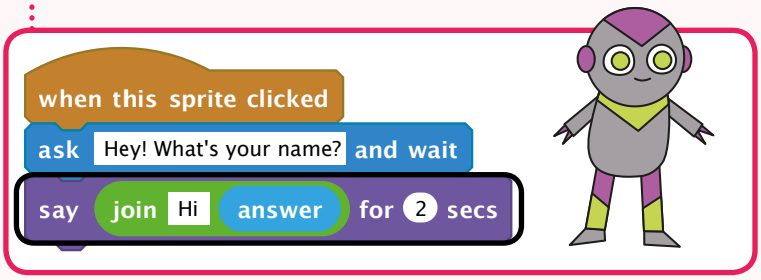
- [ ] Click on your chatbot character, and add this code:



Click your chatbot to test it out. When you are asked your name, type it into the box along the bottom of the stage.



Your chatbot simply replies 'What a lovely name!' every time. You can personalise your chatbot's reply, by making use of the user's answer. Change the chatbot's code, so that it looks like this:



DEBUG

DOES IT WORK?

Test out this new program. Does it work as you expected? Can you fix any problems that you can see?

HINT!

TIP! COMBINING BLOCKS

To create that last block in the script, you'll need to first drag a green join block, and drop it on to the say block.

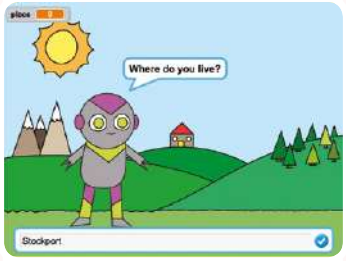
You can then change the text 'hello' to say Hi, and drag the light blue answer block (from the Sensing category) onto the text 'world'.

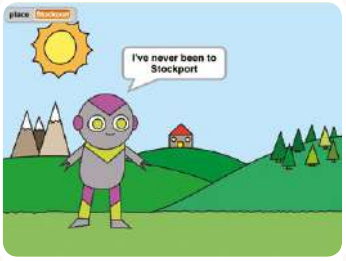
If you want to add text after the answer, you can use another join block inside the second field of the first one.

CHALLENGE

MORE QUESTIONS

Can you code your chatbot to ask another question? Can you store their answer in a variable?





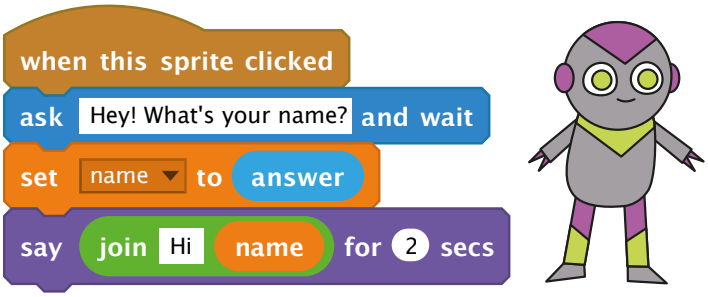
HINT!

You'll need to use another 'ask' block to ask another question, and another variable to store the answer.

If you store the answer in a variable, you'll be able to make use of it throughout your project. Create a new variable called **name**.

You should also see your new variable in the top-left of the stage.

Once you've created your new variable, edit your chatbot's code to look like this:

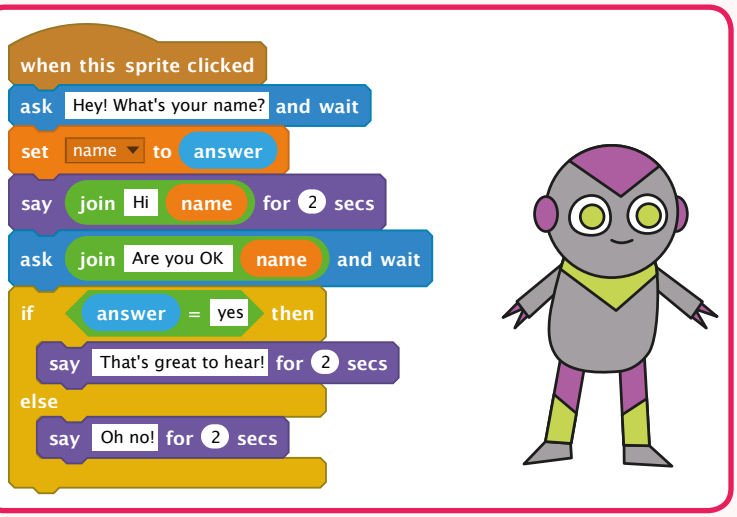


If you test your program again, you'll notice that the answer is stored in the **name** variable, and is shown in the top-left of the stage. (To hide this, just untick the tick-box next to **name** in the blocks palette.)

STEP 3: MAKING DECISIONS

You can program your chatbot to decide what to do, based on the user's responses.

Let's get your chatbot to ask the user a question which has a yes or no answer. Here's an example, but you can change the question if you like:

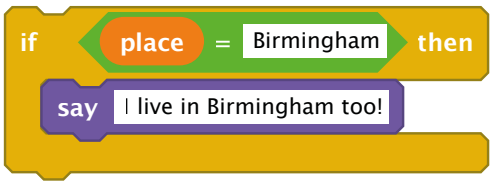


Notice that now you've stored the user's name in a variable, you can use it as much as you like.

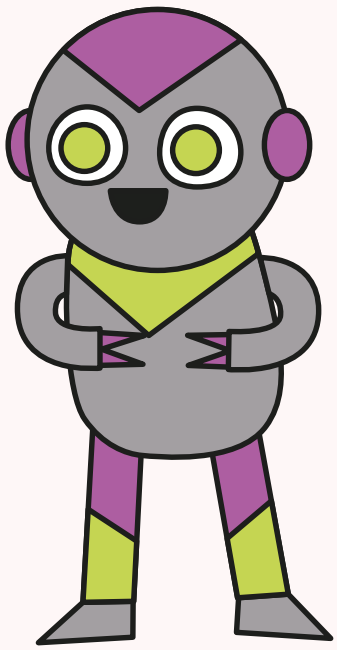
TIP! IF AND IF... ELSE BLOCKS

So far, the scripts you've written have performed exactly the same task each time they are run. `if` and `if...else` blocks allow your scripts to decide what to do next.

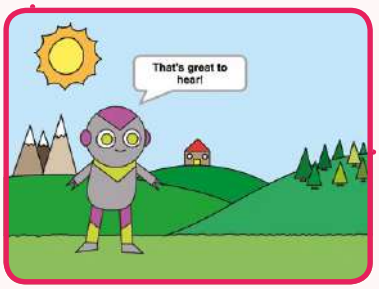
An `if` block includes a condition, and the code inside the `if` block is run only if the condition is true. If the condition is false (not true), then the code inside the `if` block is skipped.

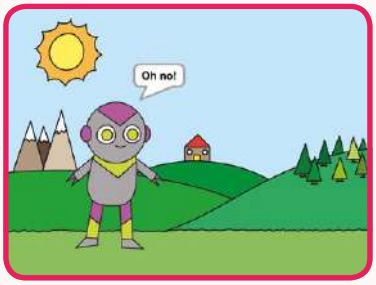


An `if...else` block will always run either the first or second set of blocks. If the condition is true, then the first set of blocks is run. If the condition is false, the second set of blocks is run instead.



If you test your code, you'll now see that you get a response when you answer yes or no. Your chatbot should reply with 'That's great to hear!' when you answer yes (which is not case-sensitive), but will reply with 'Oh no!' if you type anything else.

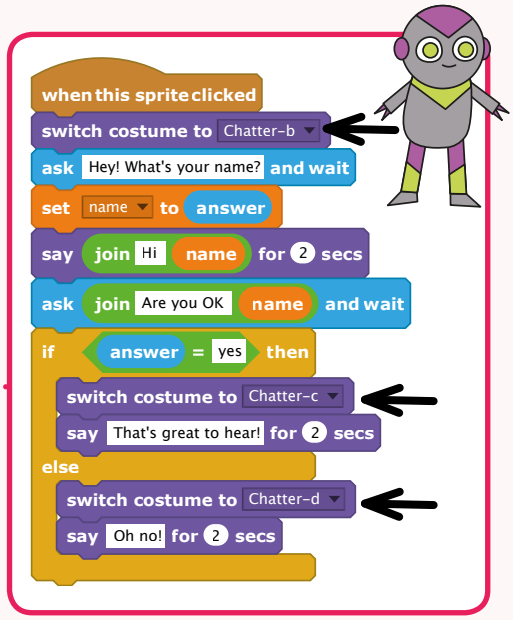




You can put any code inside an **if** or **else** block, not just code to make your chatbot speak. For example, you can change the chatbot's costume to match the response.

If you have a look at your chatbot's costumes, you should see that there are four of them. (If not, you can always add more yourself!)

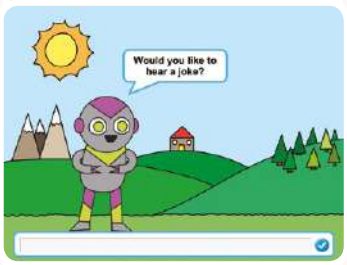
You can use these costumes as part of your chatbot's response, by adding this code:



CHALLENGE

MORE DECISIONS

Program your chatbot to ask another question – something with a yes or no answer. Can you make your chatbot respond to the answer?

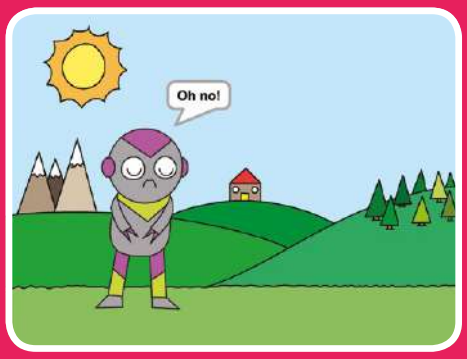


HINT!

You'll need to add another 'ask' block, with another 'if...else' block to respond to the answer

TEST YOUR PROJECT

Test out your program and you should see your chatbot's face change depending on the answer you give.

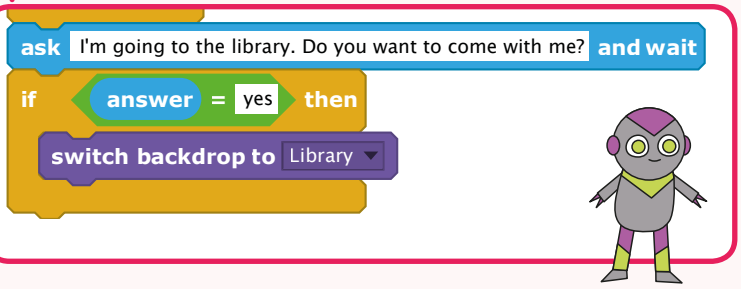


STEP 4: CHANGING LOCATION

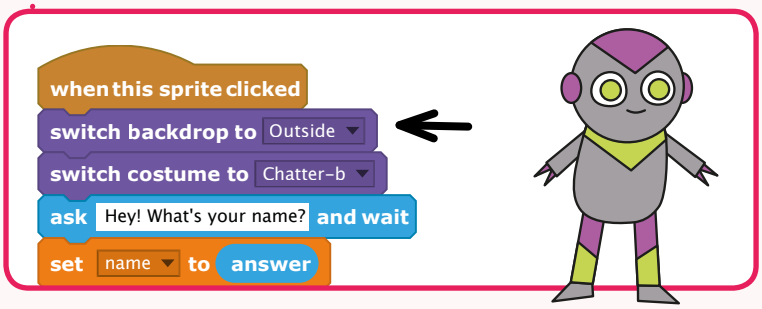
You can also program your chatbot to change its location.

Click on your stage and then click the **Backdrops** tab. You should see that your stage has two backdrops. Add another backdrop to your stage if you can only see one.

You can now program your chatbot to change location, by adding this code to your chatbot:



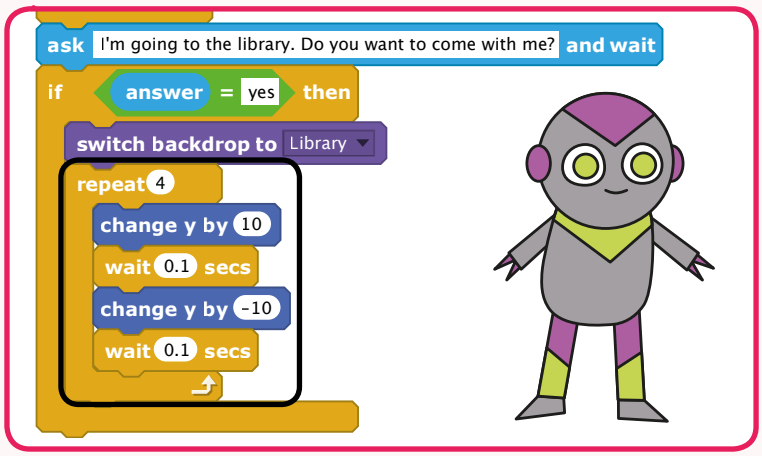
You also need to make sure that your chatbot is in its original location when you start talking to it. Add this block to the top of your chatbot code:

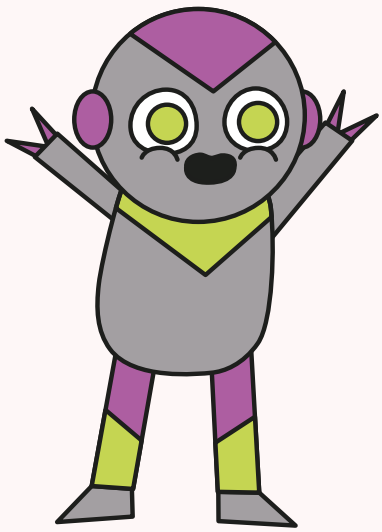


Test your program, and answer **yes** when asked if you want to go to the library. You should see that the chatbot's location has changed.

Does your chatbot change location if you type **no**? What about if you type **I'm not sure**?

You can also add this code inside your if block, to make your chatbot jump up and down four times if the answer is **yes**:



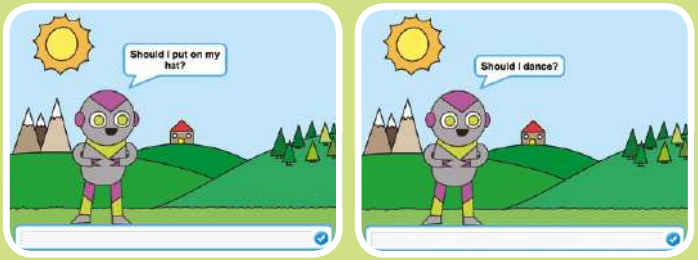


Test your code again. Does your chatbot jump up and down if you answer **yes**?

CHALLENGE

MAKE YOUR OWN CHATBOT

Program your chatbot to ask another question – something with a yes or no answer. Can you make your chatbot respond to the answer?



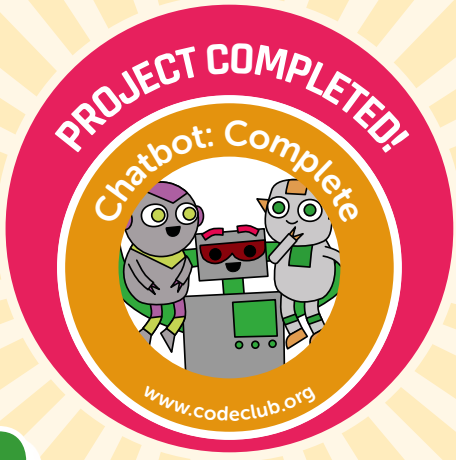
Once you've finished making your chatbot, get your friends to have a conversation with it! Do they like your character? Did they spot any problems?

Draw your own sprite and take a photo of it to use in your Scratch project!

CHATBOT FULL CODE LISTING

CHATTER

The Chatter bot asks questions and responds to the answers.



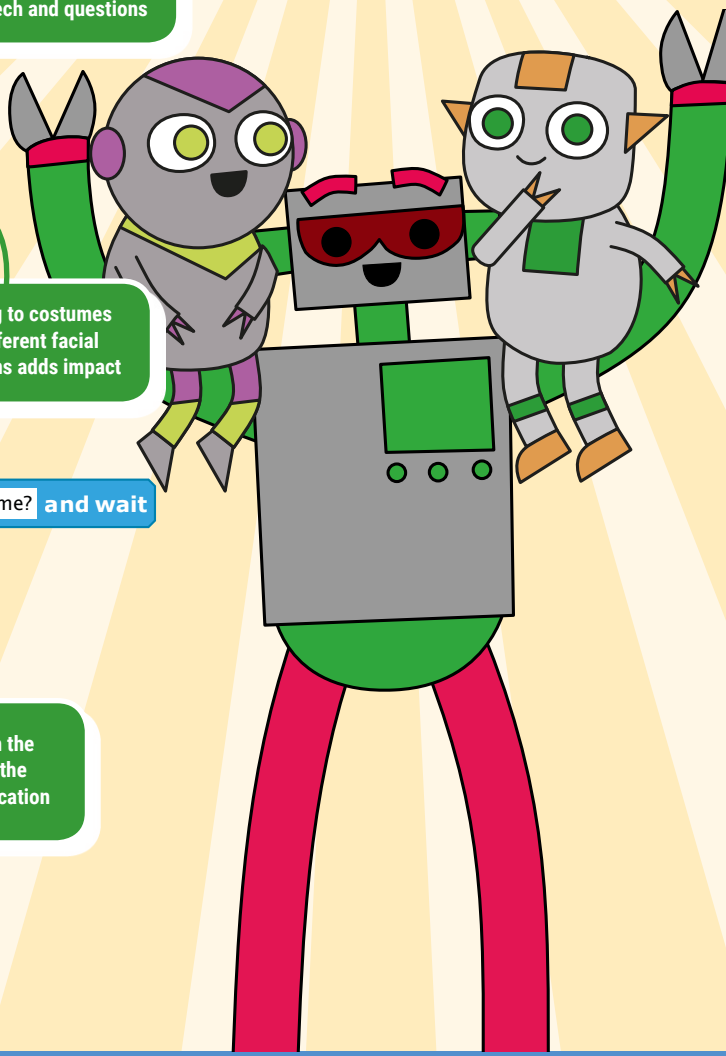

```
when this sprite clicked
switch backdrop to Outside
switch costume to Chatter-b
ask Hey! What's your name? and wait
set name to answer
say join Hi name for 2 secs
ask join Are you OK name and wait
if answer = yes then
    switch costume to Chatter-c
    say That's great to hear! for 2 secs
else
    switch costume to Chatter-d
    say Oh no! for 2 secs
switch costume to Chatter-b
ask I'm going to the library. Do you want to come with me? and wait
if answer = yes then
    switch backdrop to Library
    switch costume to Chatter-c
    repeat 4
        change y by 10
        wait 0.1 secs
        change y by -10
        wait 0.1 secs
```

The character speaks the given text and waits for an answer

By storing the first answer in a variable, we can reuse it in later speech and questions

Switching to costumes with different facial expressions adds impact

We can even switch the backdrop to move the character to a new location



Now You Could Make...

With the skills you've learned, try making these projects...

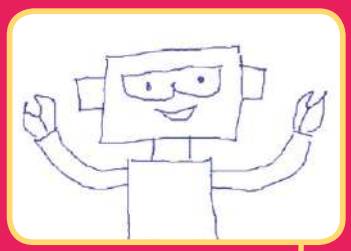
QUIZ

Create a quiz that asks questions, and checks whether the player's answer is correct. A point is added to the player's score if they get a question correct.


```
ask [What is the capital of France?] and wait
if <answer = [Paris]> then
    say [That's correct]
    change [score] by (1)
else
    say [Try again]
```

PAINT APP

Use your mouse to draw on the stage! The hidden sprite will follow the mouse pointer, and the pen only draws if the mouse button is pressed.



```
when [flag] clicked
clear
hide
forever
    go to [mouse-pointer]
    if <mouse down?> then
        pen down
    else
        pen up
```

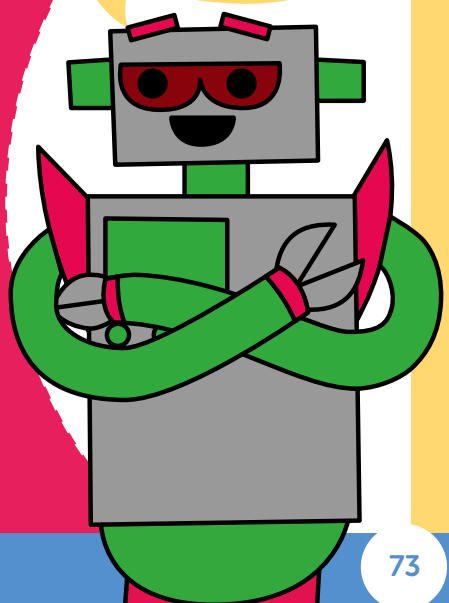
GUESSING GAME

A number between 1 and 100 is randomly chosen, and the player must try to guess the chosen number. You could even adapt the game to keep track of the number of guesses taken, so that you can play against your friends.

```
when [flag] clicked
set [number] to [pick random (1) to (100)]
say [Can you guess the number I'm thinking of?] for (2) secs
repeat until <answer = number>
    ask [What's your guess?] and wait
    if <answer < number> then
        say [Higher] for (2) secs
    else
        if <answer > number> then
            say [Lower] for (2) secs
        else
            say [Correct!] for (2) secs
```

Want to learn about co-ordinates?

Turn the page to make a fun game...

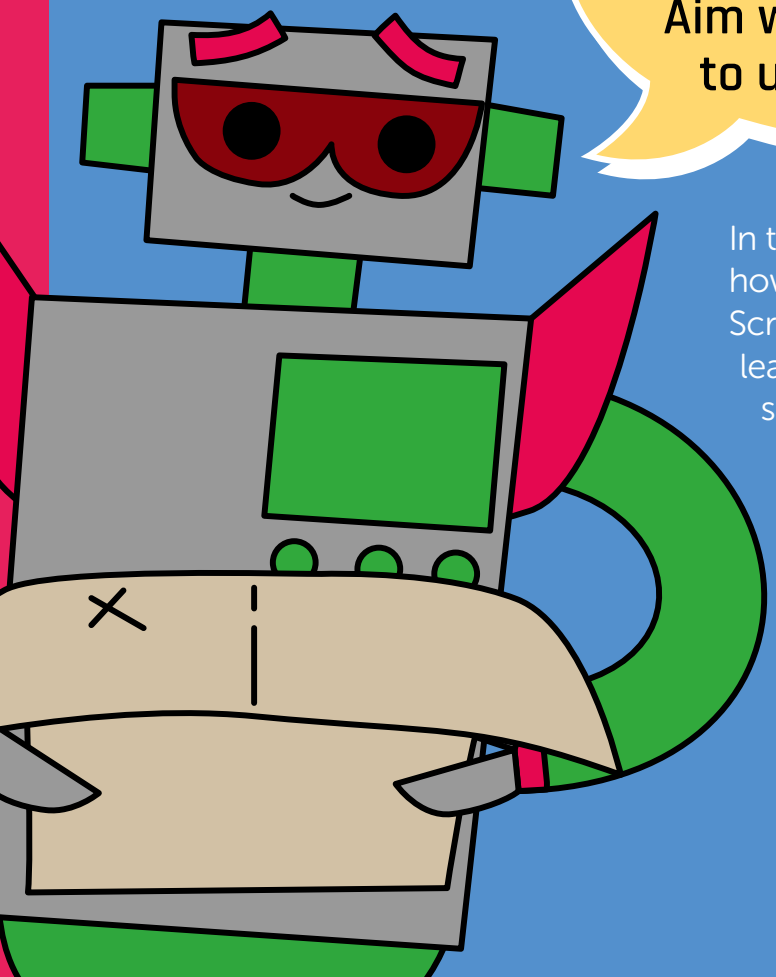


On Target

Learn how co-ordinates work in Scratch with a fun game

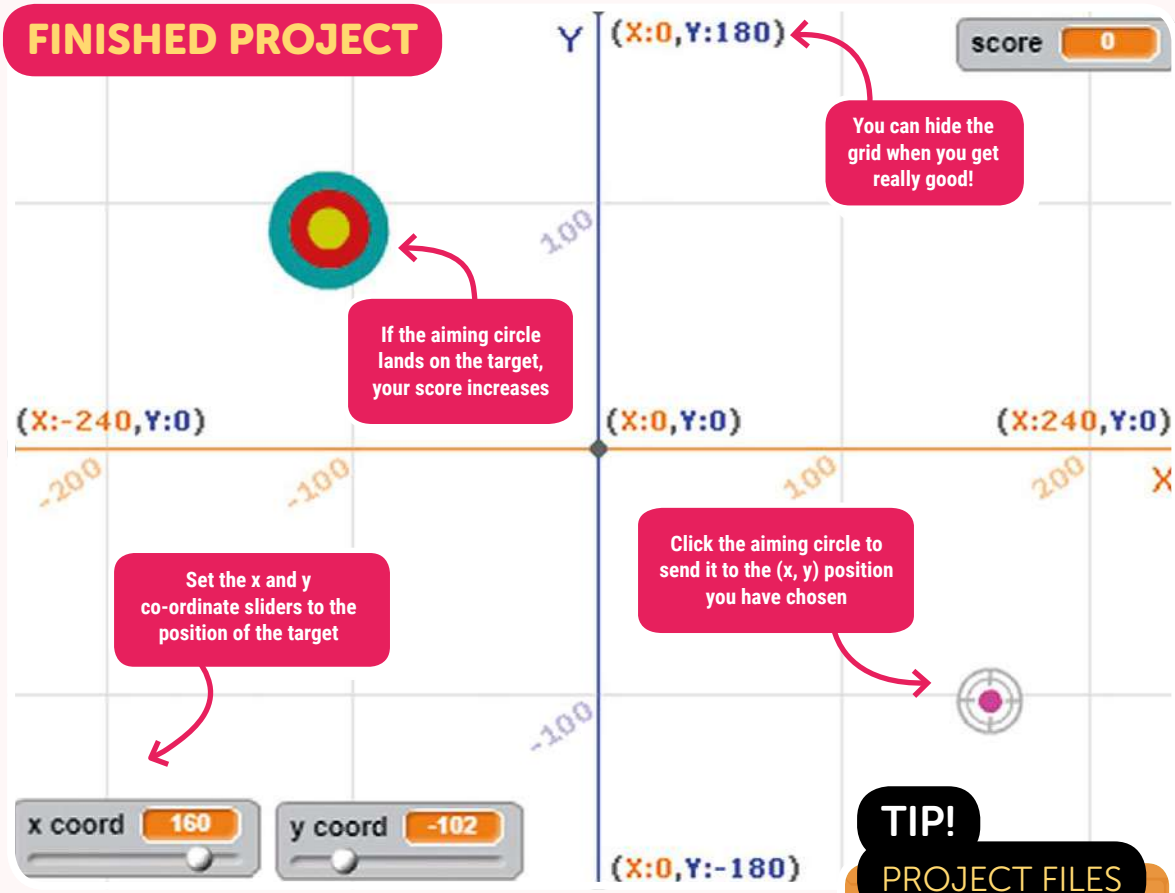
Make a target shooting game!

Aim well and learn how to use co-ordinates!



In this chapter, you'll be learning how the co-ordinate grid works in Scratch by making a game. You'll learn how to accurately position sprites on the stage using x and y co-ordinates. You'll also learn how to work with variable slider inputs. Get ready to hit some targets!

FINISHED PROJECT



STEP 1: THE CO-ORDINATES GRID

Let's start by adding a co-ordinates grid backdrop.

☑ Open a web browser and go to **rpf.io/book-ontarget** to open the On Target Scratch project. Click Remix.

The project contains two sprites: a target for you to try to hit, and an aiming circle that will move to the co-ordinates you select. The target sprite is hidden at first; you'll use it later.

Scratch uses co-ordinates to allow you to accurately position sprites on the stage. There's a backdrop to help you understand the co-ordinates grid.

TIP!

PROJECT FILES

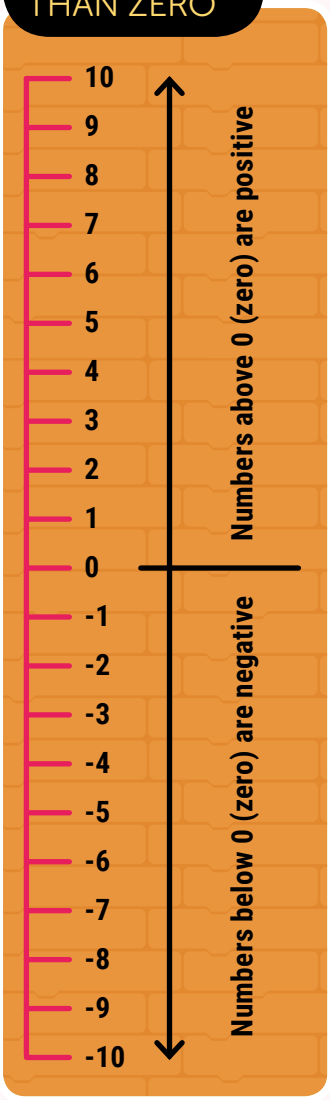
To download a zip file of all the Scratch 2 (.sb2) project assets files for this book, go to:

rpf.io/book-s1-assets

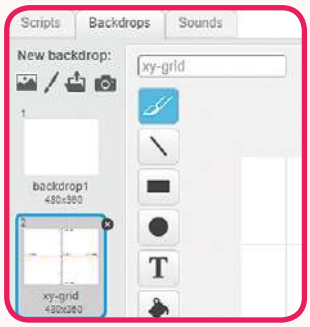
WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

- **x and y co-ordinates**
- **Positioning a sprite**
- **Slider inputs**

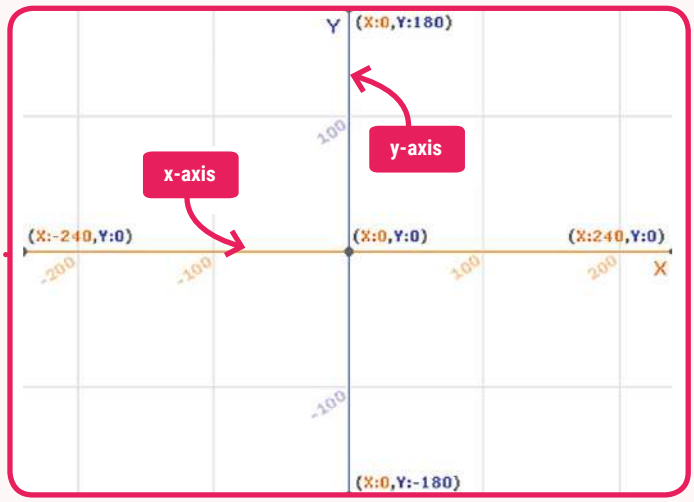
TIP!
NEGATIVE NUMBERS ARE SMALLER THAN ZERO



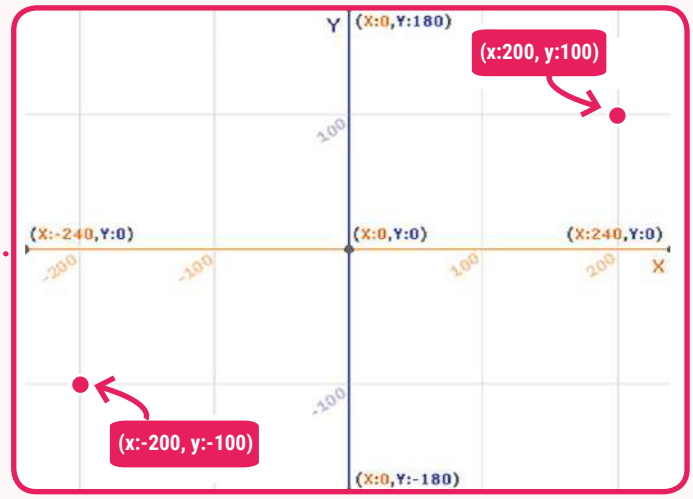
Add the **xy-grid** backdrop to your project (keep the blank backdrop).



The co-ordinates of the stage run from **-240** to **240** along the x-axis, and **-180** to **180** along the y-axis. The co-ordinates of the centre are **(x:0, y:0)**.



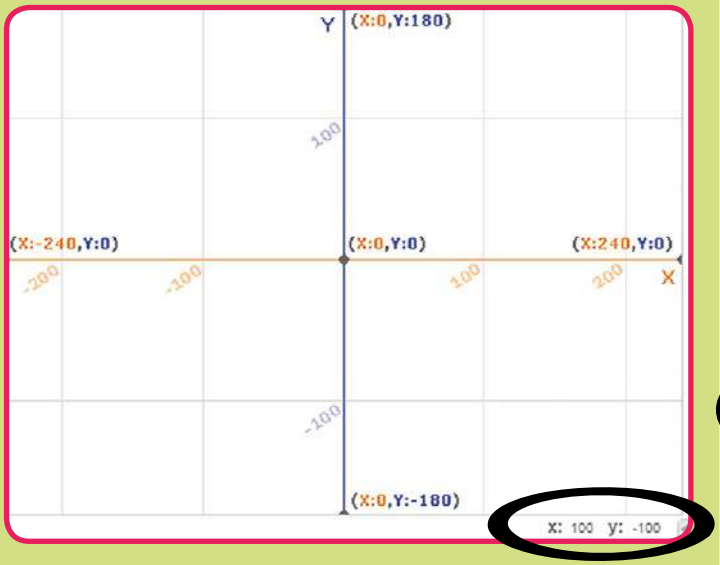
The position **(x:-200, y:-100)** is towards the bottom left on the stage, and the position **(x:200, y:100)** is near the top right.



HOW TO...

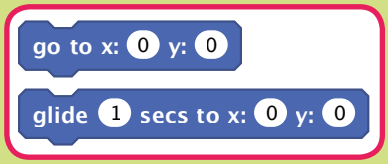
USE CO-ORDINATES

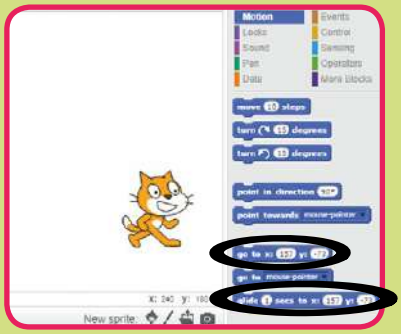
Try moving the mouse pointer around the stage and notice how the co-ordinates shown in the bottom right-hand corner change.



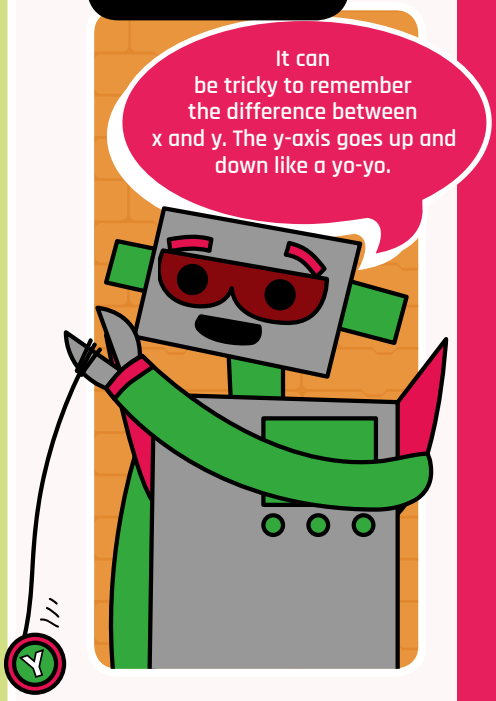
You can use this to cheat in the game we're making! But if you switch to full-screen mode, you don't see the co-ordinates of the mouse cursor.

The go to and glide Motion blocks take their default inputs from the current position of the sprite. This means you can move a sprite to the position you want it to go to and then just drag the block to the coding area. This is easier that working out the co-ordinates and entering them yourself.



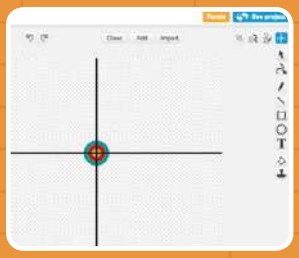


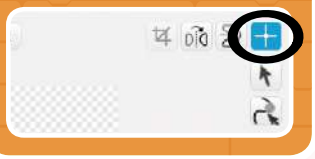
TIP! X AND Y



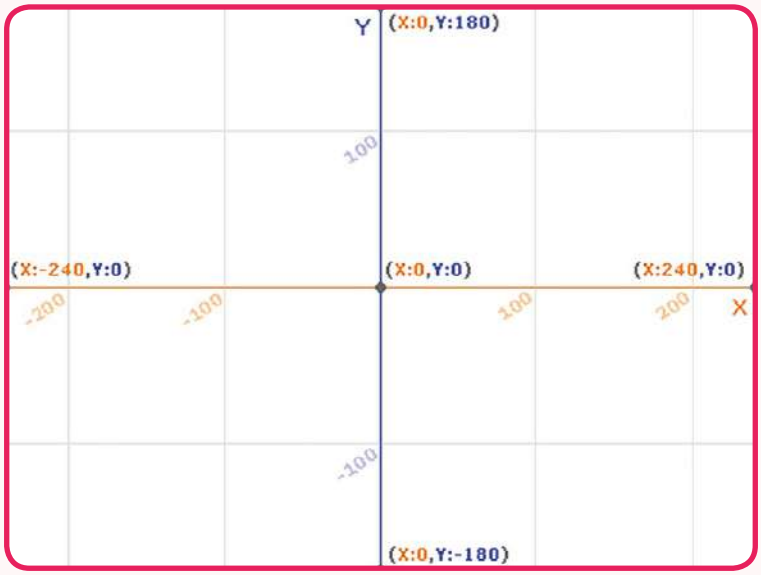
TIP! SET CENTRE

The co-ordinates are based on the centre of the sprite. You can set this using the crosshair tool when you edit a costume for a sprite.





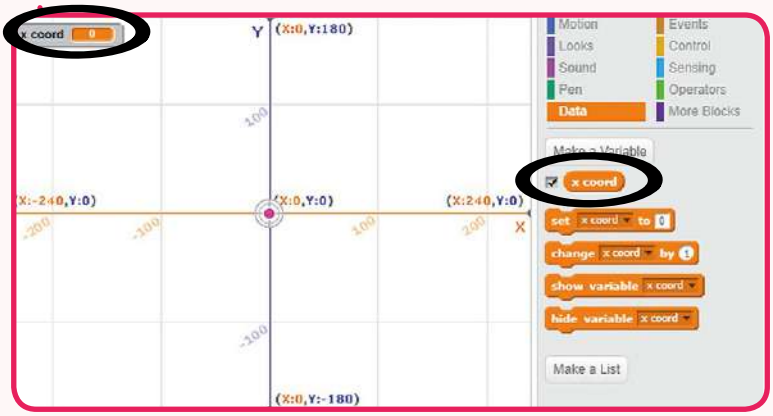
Add letters to the grid below to mark the following positions: **A:** (x:50, y: 50); **B:** (x:-100, y: -100); **C:** (x: -150, y: 100); **D:** (x: 175, y: -30)



STEP 2: AIM AT (X, Y) CO-ORDINATES

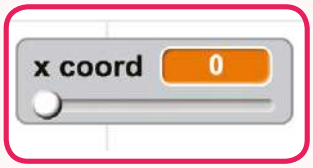
Now let's send the aiming circle to (x, y) co-ordinates.

Add a variable called **x coord** to your Aim sprite and choose 'For all sprites'. A **monitor** for your variable will appear on the stage.



- [ ] Double-click on the variable monitor for the **x coord** variable and it will change to just showing the number; this is called the 'large readout'.

- [ ] Double-click on the variable monitor again and it will turn into a slider.



- [ ] Drag the slider and watch the number change.

The current smallest number for the slider is ___ and the largest number value is ___ .

You're going to use the slider to represent an x co-ordinate, so it needs to be able to change between -240 and 240.

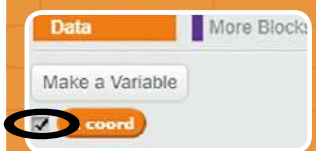
- [ ] Right-click on the x coord variable monitor on the stage and choose **set slider min and max**.

- [ ] Set the **Min** to **-240** and the **Max** to **240**.

TIP!

VARIABLE MONITOR

When you create a new variable, a 'variable monitor' appears on the stage showing its current value. You can show or hide the monitor on the stage by clicking the tick-box next to the variable.



TIP!

SLIDER INPUTS

A slider allows you to set a variable by moving a control. Sliders are useful for creating number inputs in Scratch.

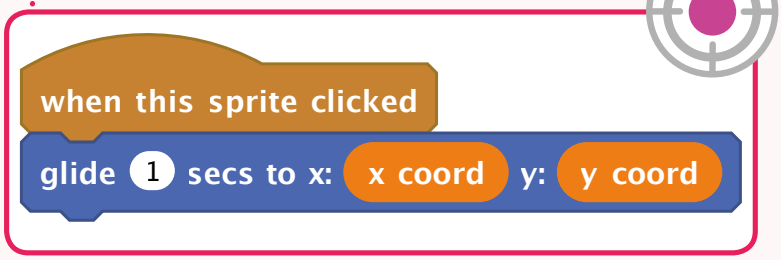
- [ ] Try the slider out. Now you can set the x coord variable to values from -240 to 240, which corresponds to the range of the x-axis in Scratch.

- [ ] Now add a **y coord** variable for the y co-ordinate and change to the slider setting.

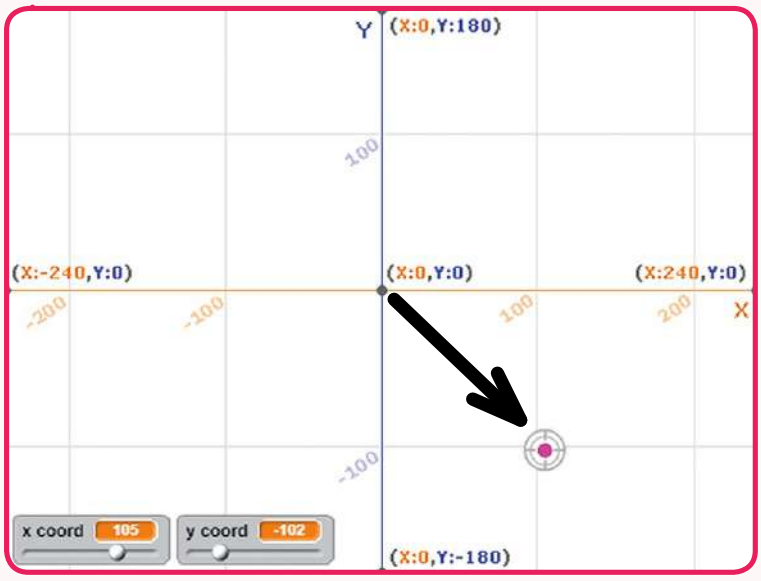
- [ ] Set the Min to -180 and the Max to 180 to match the range of the y-axis.

- [ ] Drag your x and y sliders to the bottom left of the stage. Make sure you place x on the left and y on the right, as co-ordinates are given in this order.

Now add a script to your Aim sprite so that when you click it, it glides to the x coord and y coord shown on the variable sliders.



Spend some time changing the x and y co-ordinates and then clicking on the aiming circle to get it to move to the position you have chosen. Make sure you understand how changing the x and y sliders will change the position of the aiming circle.



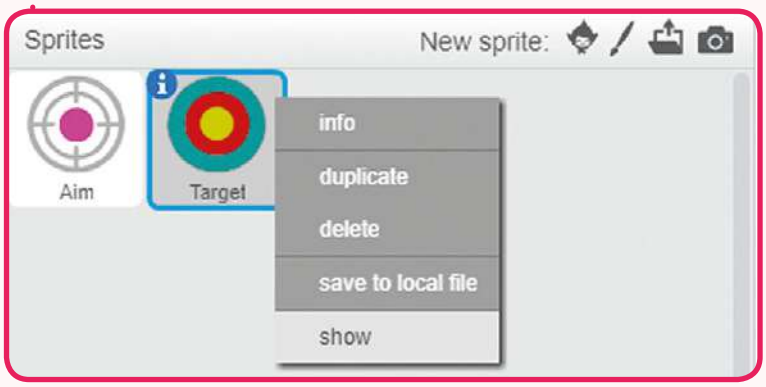
TIP! TINY MOVES

You can click a slider either side of the knob to increase or decrease the value by 1 at a time. Try it! This is useful for accurate positioning.

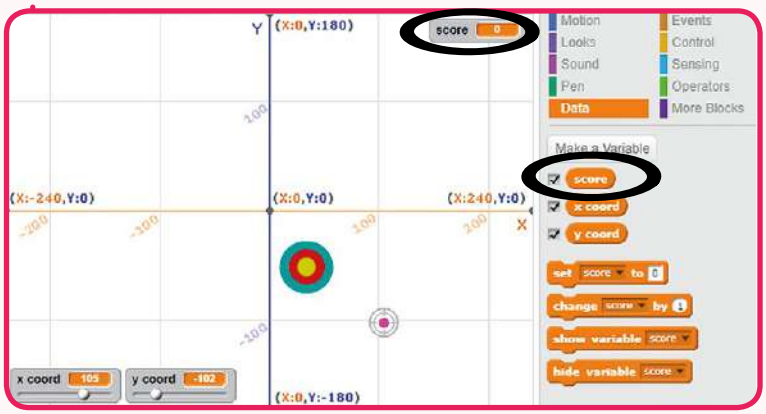
STEP 3: CAN YOU HIT THE TARGET?

Now let's see if you can set the co-ordinates correctly to aim at the target. You'll score a point each time you hit the target.

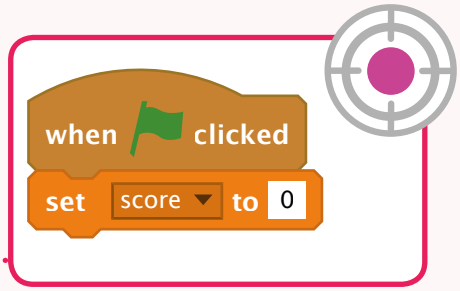
Right-click on the Target sprite below the stage and choose **show**. The sprite will appear on the stage.



Add a **score** variable for all sprites and drag its stage monitor to the top right.



Add a script to the Aim sprite to set the score to 0 at the beginning of a game.



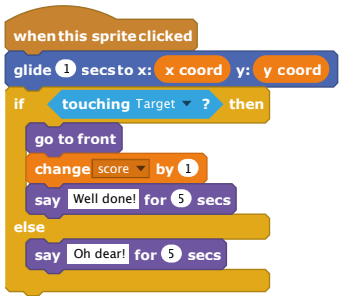
DEBUG

If your Aim sprite ends up behind your Target, add a go to front block before changing the score.

TIP!

The go to front Looks block puts a sprite on top of all the other sprites.

Add code to the Aim sprite to check whether it is touching the target after gliding. Either reward the player by saying 'Well done!' and adding a point to the score, or if they didn't hit the target, you can say 'Oh dear!'.



TIP! DRAG IT

If you want to try this out in full-screen mode, then you'll need to allow the target to be dragged. Click on information (i) for the Target sprite and click the box next to 'can drag in player'.

TEST YOUR PROJECT

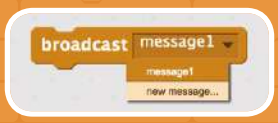
Drag the target to a new position on the stage. Set the x and y co-ordinates to where you think the target is. Click on the aiming circle to move to the co-ordinates you have chosen and see if you got it right.

If you click on the aiming circle now, will it touch the target? _____

If you succeed then you will see a 'Well done!' message.

TIP! BROADCAST

To create a new broadcast block message, click its drop-down arrow and select 'new message...".



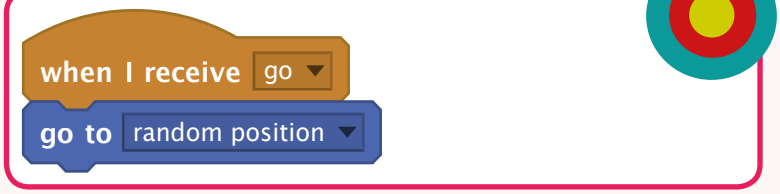
Now type a message into the Message Name field and click OK.

The new message will now appear in the broadcast block and will be also available in its drop-down list.

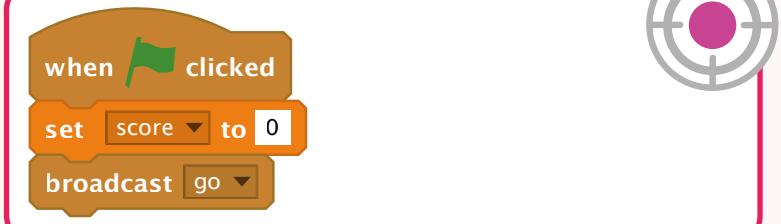
STEP 4: MOVING TARGET

Now let's get the target moving to a random position at the start of the game and at the end of each turn.

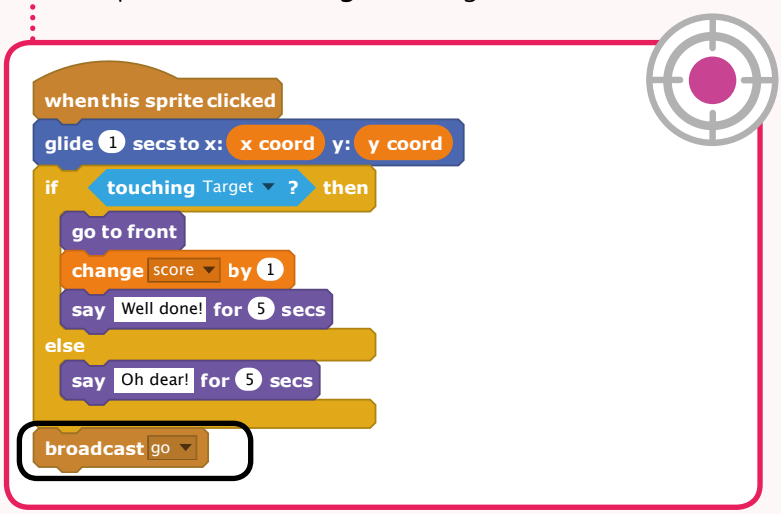
- [ ] Add a script to the Target sprite to go to a random position when it receives a **go** message.



- [ ] Add a block to the when flag clicked script of the Aim sprite to broadcast a **go** message.



- [ ] Add code to the Aim sprite's when this sprite clicked script to broadcast a **go** message at the end of a turn.



TEST YOUR PROJECT

Now you can try playing the game. Click the green flag to start. The target moves to a new position. Set the x and y sliders and then click the aiming circle to send it to that position.

Did you hit the target? Have another go. Keep trying until you are good at it.

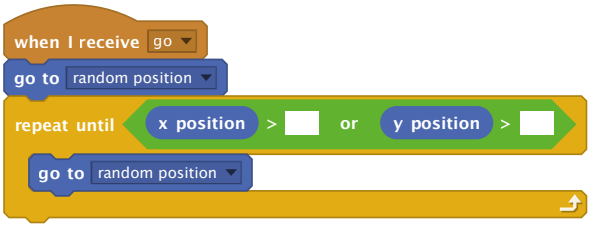
CHALLENGE

HIT IT

Sometimes the target ends up on top of the sliders. That's annoying! Click the green flag lots of times without playing the game until you see the target on top of the sliders.

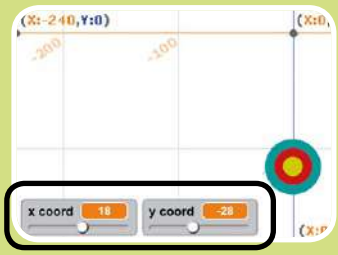
Can you add code to the target sprite so that it moves to a new position if it ends up on top of the sliders?

Start with this code and fill in the positions.



You need the centre of the target to avoid landing in the highlighted rectangle.

Test your code again by clicking the green flag lots of times and make sure it doesn't land on the sliders.



TIP!

You can move the mouse to check the co-ordinates of positions on the stage.

HINT!

> means 'greater than'. Remember, -100 is bigger than -200! You need to check that the x position is greater than around 0 and the y position is greater than around -115.

TIP! TOUCHING COLOUR?

The first colour in the color is touching? block is the colour on the sprite that the script belongs to; the second colour is on another sprite. Click on the colour box that you want to change and then click on that colour anywhere on the stage or editor.

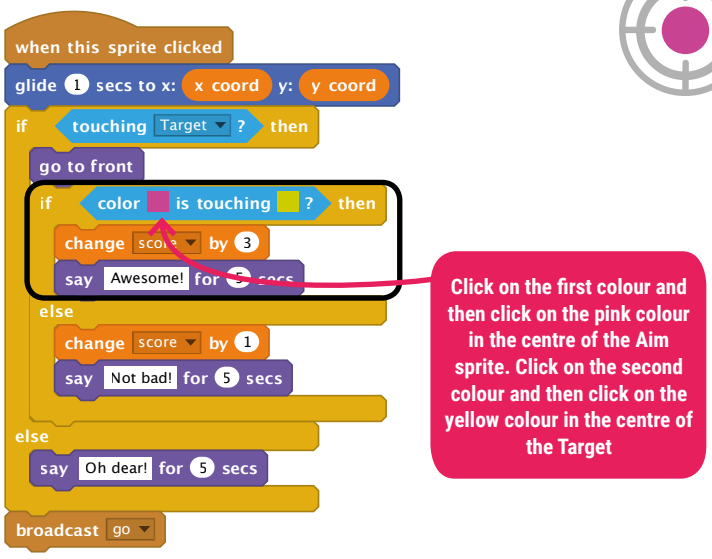
STEP 5: MORE POINTS FOR ACCURACY

Now let's increase the score if you get your aim closer to the centre of the target.

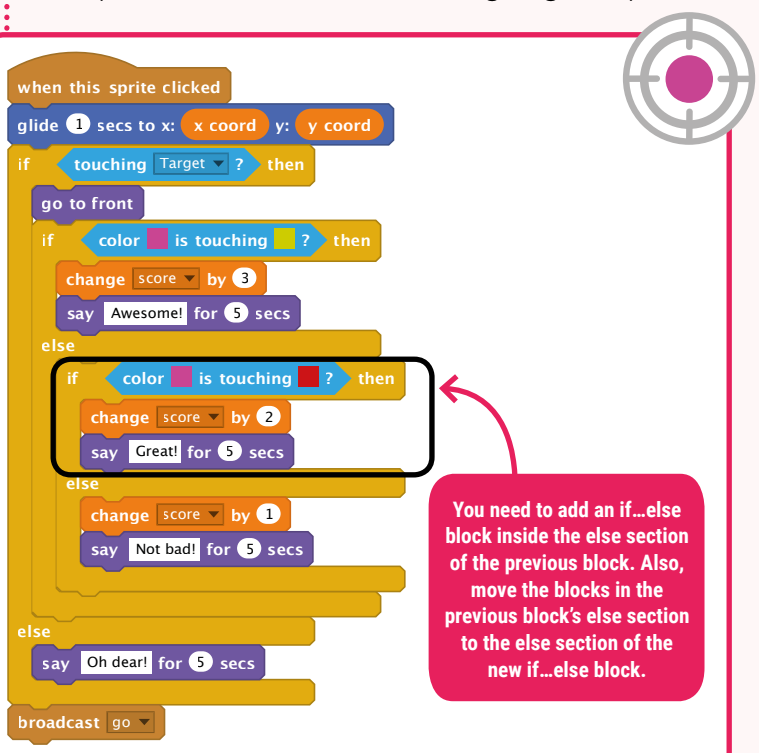
You're going to use the color is touching? block to detect which part of the target the pink circle in the centre of the aiming circle is touching.

You'll get 3 points if it's touching the yellow circle, 2 points for red, and 1 point for blue.

Update the code on the Aim sprite so that it checks whether the centre of the sprite is touching the target's yellow centre and rewards the player with points and a different message:



Update the code on the Aim sprite to detect when the pink circle touches the red ring to give 2 points.



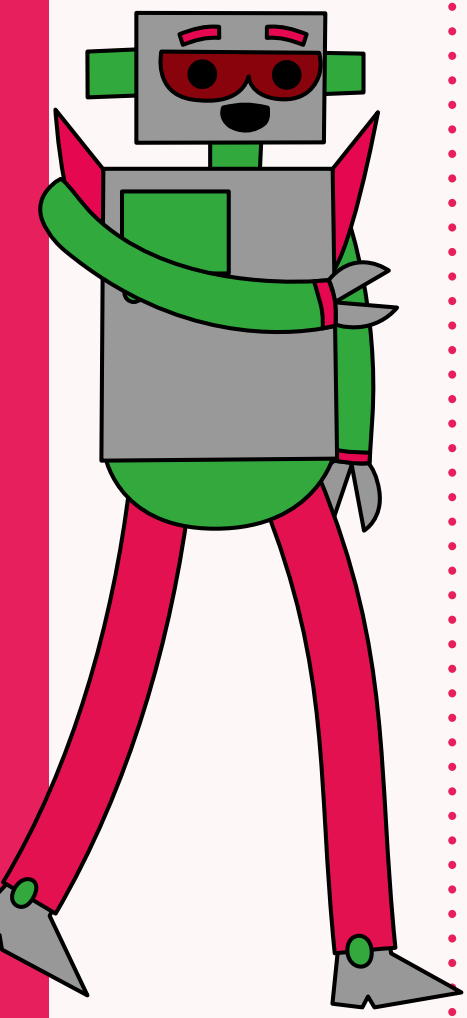
You don't need to check for the red ring being hit if you know that the player hit the yellow ring, so this code goes in the **else** section.

CHALLENGE

- **Become a co-ordinates expert! Keep practising until you are really confident using co-ordinate grid positions in Scratch.**
- **Add a 'turns' variable and see how many points you can score in 10 turns.**
- **Can you add instructions to your game that explain how co-ordinates work? You can record your own voice or type text into a sprite.**

HINT!

The x-axis runs from -240 on the left to 240 on the right. The y-axis runs from -180 at the bottom to 180 at the top. Remember, y goes up and down like a yo-yo.

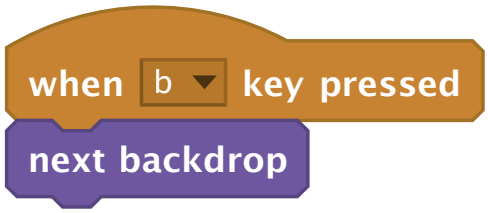


CHALLENGE

TOO EASY FOR YOU?

- Try making the Aim sprite or Target smaller so you have to be more accurate.
- Try changing the backdrop to the plain one without the grid.

- If you like, you can add a script to the stage to switch between the backdrops when you press a key:



Hide the grid and switch to full-screen mode so that you can't cheat by looking at the co-ordinates of the target. If you find you're not hitting the target, switch back to the grid backdrop and have a bit more practice.

HOW TO...

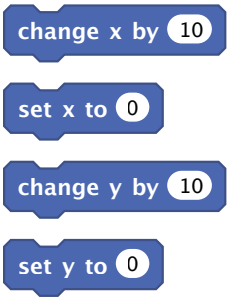
WORK WITH X AND Y POSITIONS

Scratch has built-in variables for the x and y position of a sprite.

Click Scripts and then Motion and you will see the x position and y position variables near the bottom.

Just as with variables you create, you can click the tick-box to show these variables on the stage.

The variables will update when you drag the sprite around the screen.



You can change the x and y position of a sprite separately using set and change blocks.

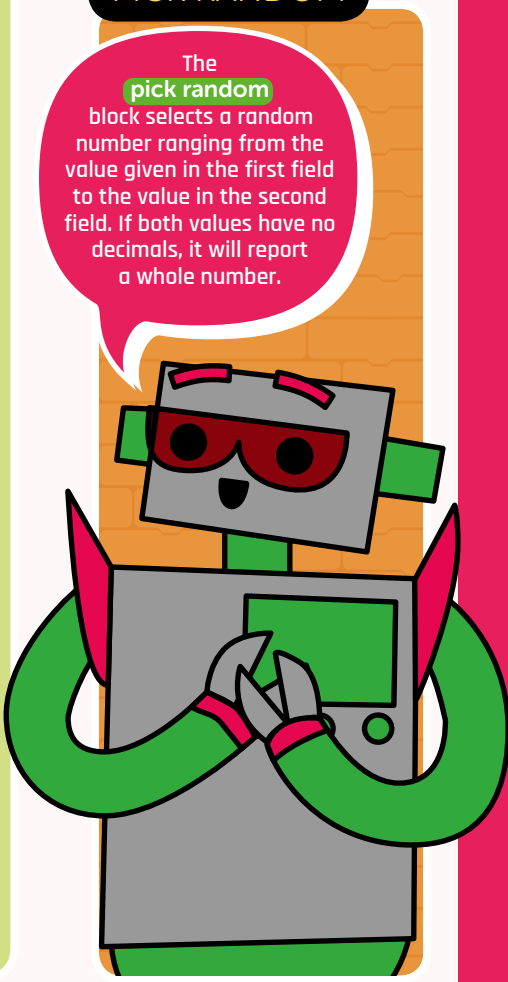
To send a sprite to a random y position, use:

What numbers do you need in the following code to send a sprite to a random x position?:

TIP!

PICK RANDOM

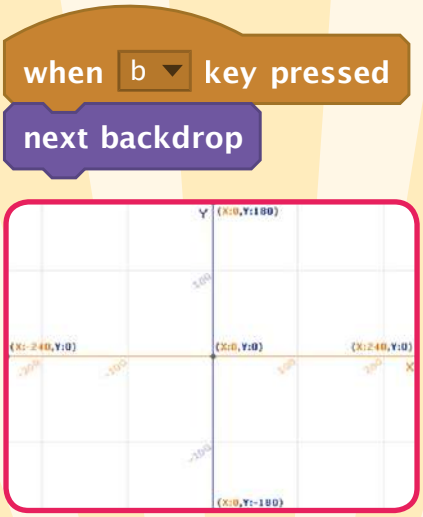
The **pick random** block selects a random number ranging from the value given in the first field to the value in the second field. If both values have no decimals, it will report a whole number.



ON TARGET FULL CODE LISTING

STAGE

A key press changes the backdrop.

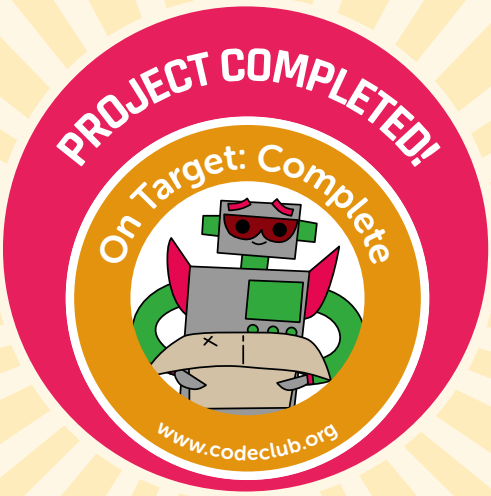


TARGET

It's sent to a random position.

AIM

When clicked, it's sent to the co-ordinates of the sliders.

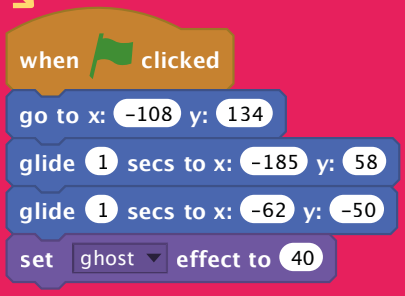


Now You Could Make...

With your new-found knowledge, you could try these projects...

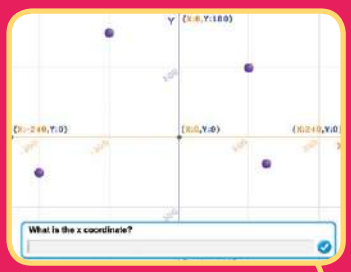
GLIDING GHOSTS

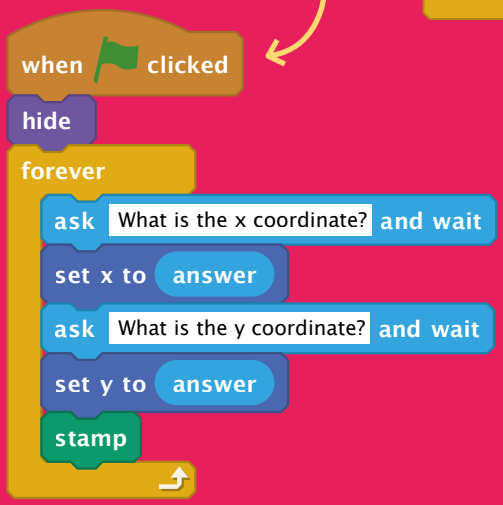
Create an animation that uses co-ordinates to position sprites accurately.



GRID PLOTTER

Make a maths app that allows you to ask the user for co-ordinates and then stamp a sprite to plot the given co-ordinates.



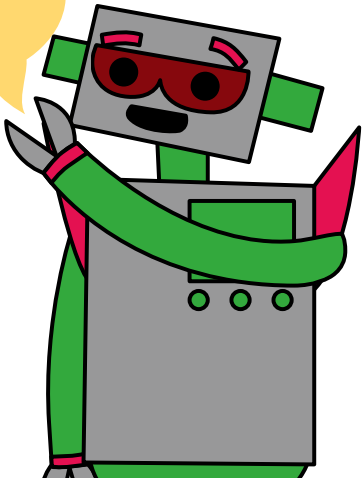


FALLING ROCKS

Code a game where rocks always fall from the same y position (height), but random x positions.

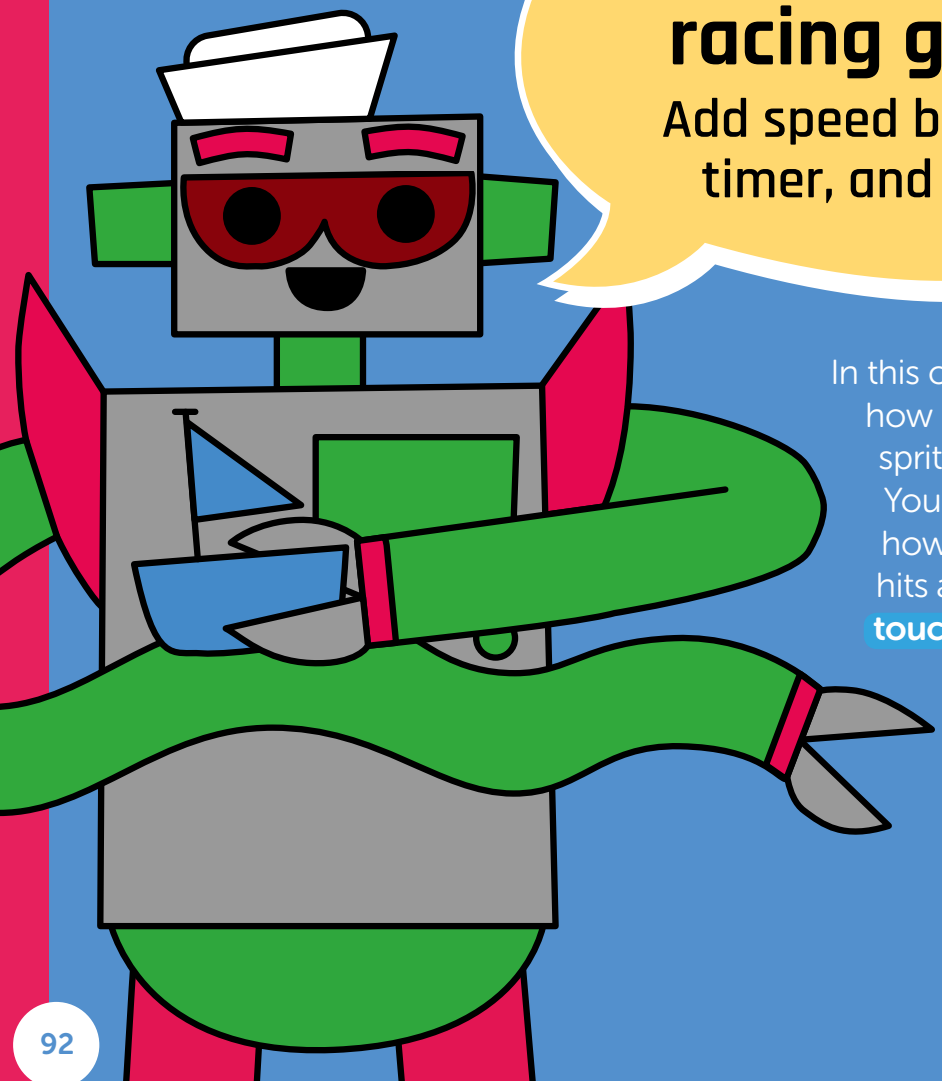
Want to make a boat race game?

Turn the page to find out how...



Boat Race

Make your own racing game featuring colour-sensing collision detection and a timer

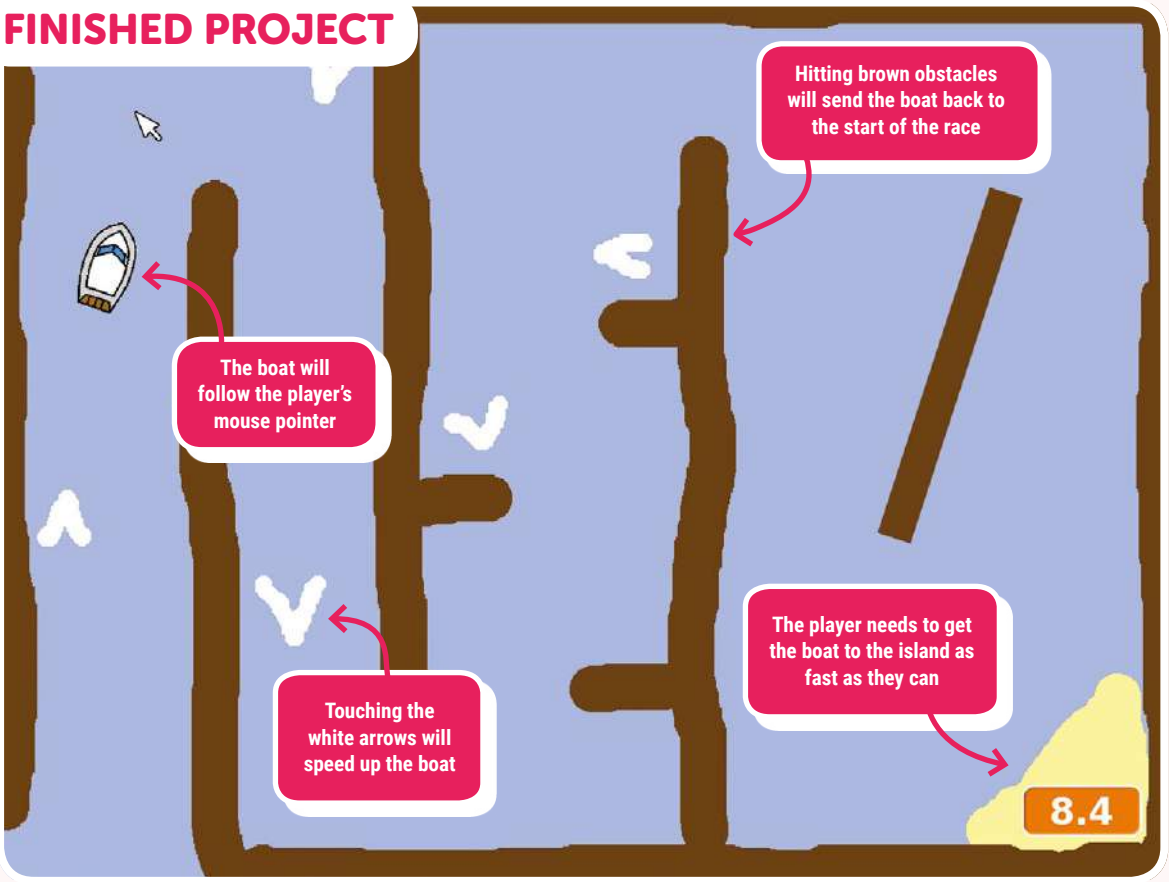


Code an exciting racing game!

Add speed boosts, a timer, and more!

In this chapter, you'll learn how to control a boat sprite with the mouse. You will also discover how to sense when it hits an obstacle, by using **touching color** blocks.

FINISHED PROJECT

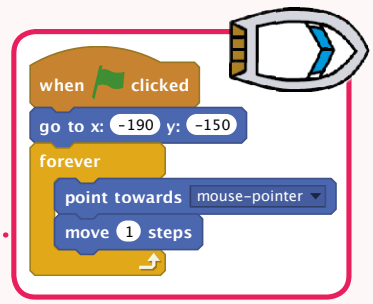


STEP 1: CONTROLLING YOUR BOAT

Program your boat sprite to follow the mouse pointer.

- [ ] In a web browser, go to **rpf.io/book-boatrace** to open the Boat Race project. Click the Remix button.

- [ ] You are going to control the boat with your mouse. Add this code to your Boat sprite:



WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

- Sprite movement using the mouse

TIP!

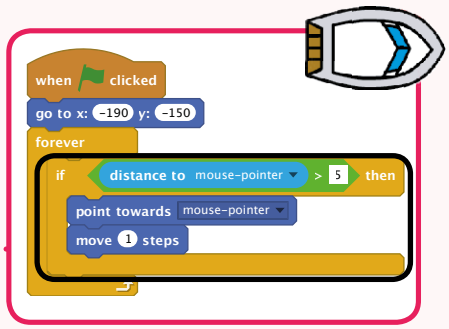
PROJECT FILES

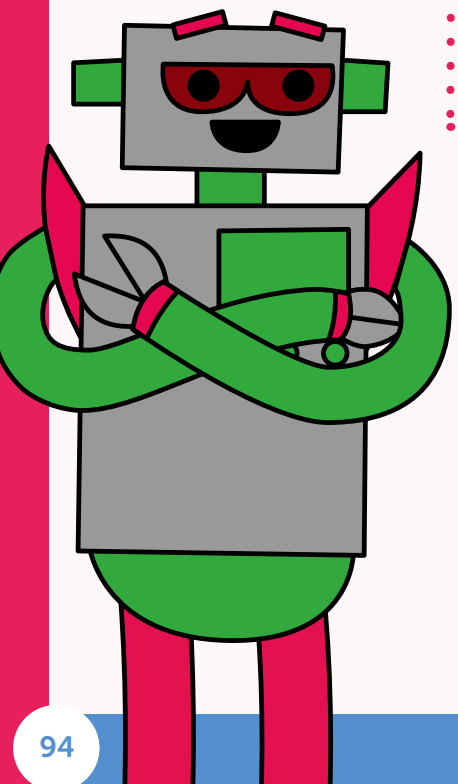
To download a zip file of all the Scratch 2 (.sb2) project assets files for this book, go to:

rpf.io/book-s1-assets

- [ ] Test out your boat, by clicking the flag and moving the mouse. Does the boat sail towards your mouse pointer? When done, hit the red Stop button.

- [ ] Have you noticed that the boat glitches if it reaches the mouse pointer? To stop this happening, you'll need to add an **if** block to your code, so that the boat only moves if it is more than 5 pixels away from the mouse.
Note: This uses a **( ) > ( )** Operator block with a **distance to** Sensing block.





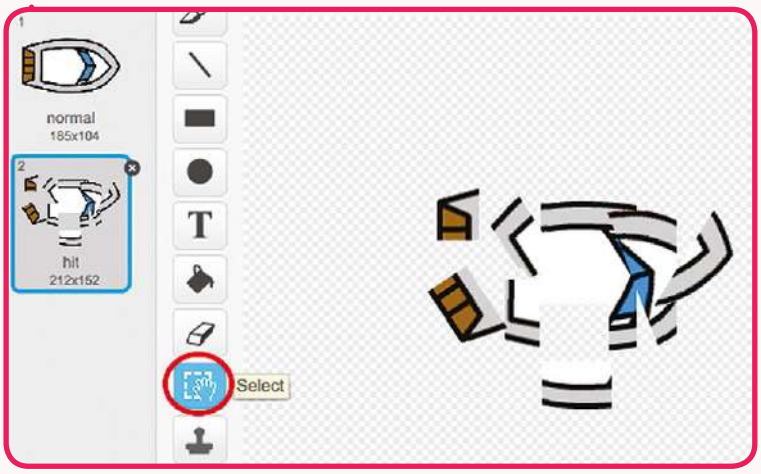
- [ ] Test out your boat again, to check that the problem has been fixed. When done, hit the Stop button

STEP 2: CRASHING

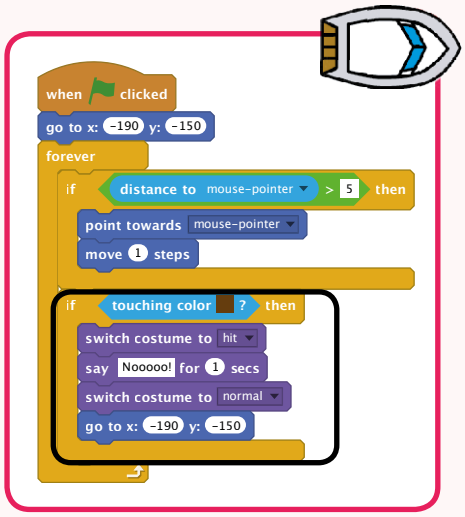
Your boat can sail through the wooden barriers! Let's fix that.

- [ ] You'll need two costumes for your boat: one normal costume, and one for when the boat crashes. Right-click on your boat costume to **duplicate** it, and name your costumes **normal** and **hit**.

Click on your **hit** costume, and choose the **Select** tool to grab bits of the boat and move and rotate them around. Make your boat look as if it's crashed.



Add this code to your boat, inside the **forever** loop, so that it crashes when it touches any brown wooden bits.



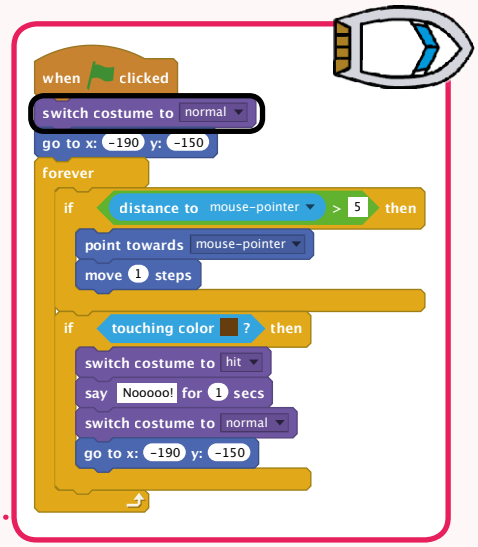
This code is inside the **forever** loop, so that your code keeps checking if the boat has crashed each time it moves.

Note: To set the correct colour, click the colour square in the **touching color** block, then click a part of the brown scenery on the stage.

TIP! SELECT TOOL

Using the Select tool, click and drag to select an area of the sprite. Drag the selected area to move it, or click its top 'handle' and drag left/right to rotate it.

You should also make sure that your boat always starts a new game looking like it's 'normal'. Add this block to the start of your boat's script (outside of the **forever** block).



CHALLENGE

WINNING!

Can you add another if block to your boat's code, so that the player wins when they get to the desert island?

When the boat gets to the yellow desert island, it should say 'YEAH!' and then the game should stop.

HINT!

You'll need to use a 'stop all' block to stop all scripts when the boat finishes.

TEST YOUR PROJECT

Now if you try to sail through a wooden barrier, your boat should crash and move back to the start. When finished, click the red Stop button.

CHALLENGE

SOUND EFFECTS

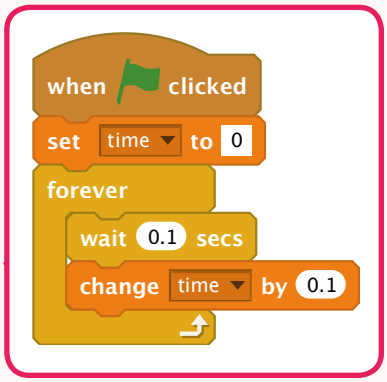
Can you add sound effects to your game, for when the boat crashes, or reaches the island at the end? You could even add background music (see the previous 'Rock Band' project if you need help with this).

STEP 3: TIME TRIAL

Let's add a timer to your game, so that the player has to get to the desert island as fast as possible.

- [ ] Add a new variable called **time** to your stage. You can also change the display of your new variable. If you need help, have a look at the 'Ghost Catcher' project.

- [ ] Add this code to your **Stage**, so that the **time** variable counts up, starting at 0:



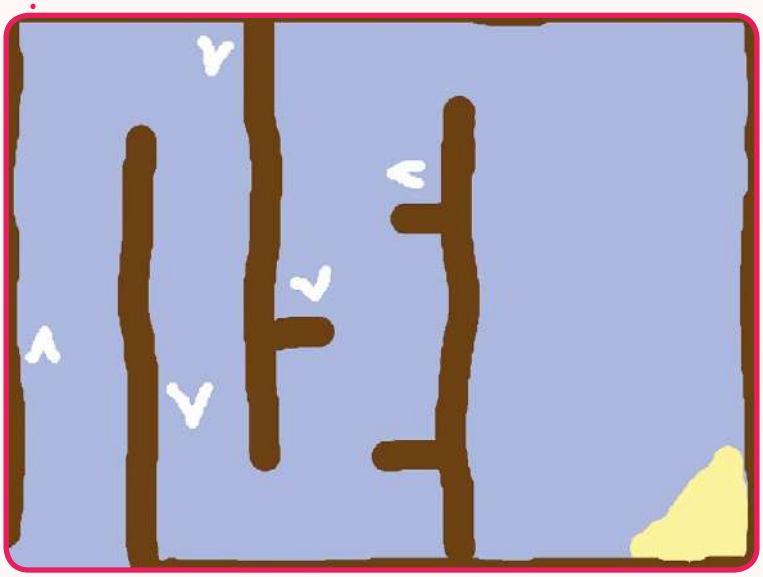
TEST YOUR PROJECT

That's it! Test out your game and see how quickly you can get to the desert island!

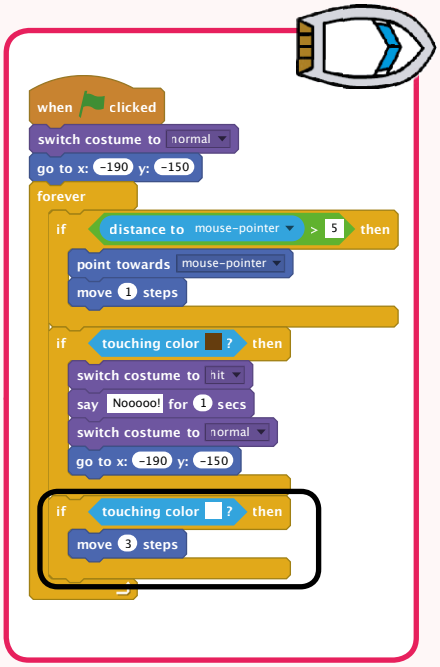
STEP 4: OBSTACLES AND POWER-UPS

This game is far too easy – let's add things to make it more interesting!

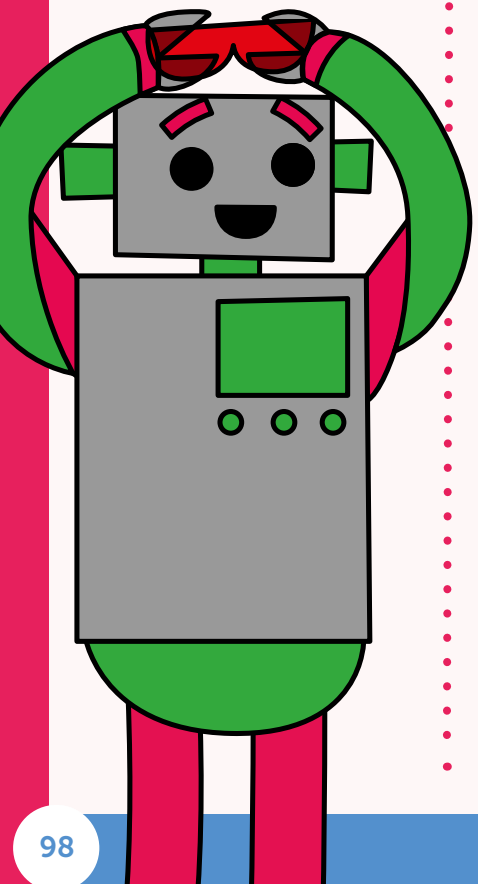
First let's add some 'boosts' to your game, which will speed up the boat. Click the Stage, then the Backdrops tab, and add some white booster arrows.



You can now add some code to your boat's **forever** loop, so that it moves 3 extra steps if touching a white booster.

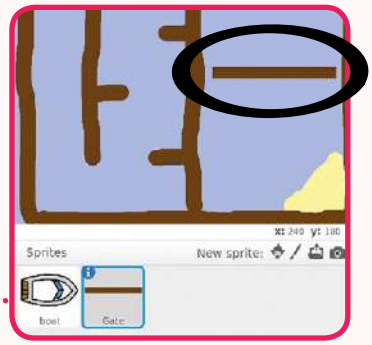


Test your new code. Does your boat speed up when it touches a white booster?



You can also add in a spinning gate, which your boat has to avoid. Draw a new sprite called **Gate**, which looks like this...

Make sure that the colour of the gate is the same as the other wooden barriers.



Set the centre of the gate sprite by clicking the **Set costume centre** button and clicking in the centre of the rectangle.

Add code to your gate, to make it spin slowly forever. Tip: Look at the code for the monkey sprite in the 'Lost in Space' project.

TEST YOUR PROJECT

Test out your game. You should now have a spinning gate that you must avoid.

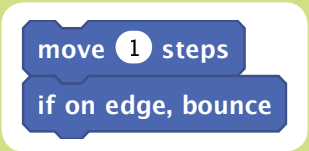
CHALLENGE

MORE OBSTACLES!

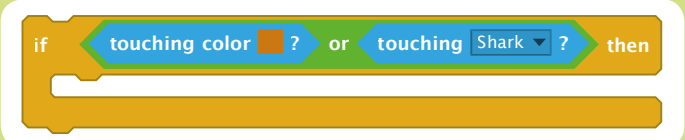
- You could add green slime to your backdrop, which slows the player down when they touch it. You can use a wait block to do this:

- You could add another moving object, like a log or a shark!

- These blocks may help you:



- If your new object isn't brown, you'll need to add to your boat code:

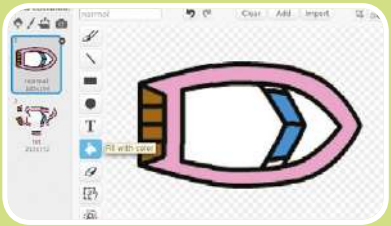


CHALLENGE

MORE BOATS!

Can you turn your game into a race between two players?

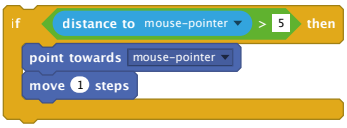
- Duplicate the boat sprite and change its colour.



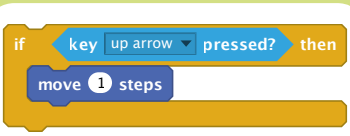
- Change Player 2's starting position, by changing this code:

- Delete the code that uses the mouse to control the boat:

  Replace it with code to control the boat using the arrow keys.



- This is the code you'll need to move the boat forward:



You'll also need code to turn the boat when the left and right arrow keys are pressed.

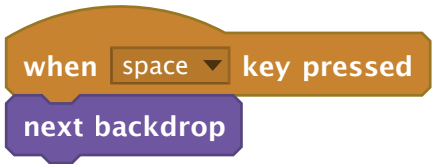
CHALLENGE

MORE LEVELS!

Can you create additional backdrops, and allow the player to choose between levels?

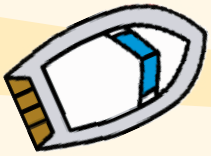
What will your new level look like? Sketch it out below and label the finish and any obstacles.

Here's some code you can add to your Stage to switch between levels:



Draw a backdrop idea...

BOAT RACE FULL CODE LISTING



BOAT

Steered using the mouse pointer, the boat must be guided safely around the course.


```
when clicked
switch costume to [normal]
go to x: [-190] y: [-150]
forever
  if <distance to [mouse-pointer] > [5]> then
    point towards [mouse-pointer]
    move (1) steps
  if <touching color [■] ?> then
    switch costume to [hit]
    say [Nooooo!] for (1) secs
    switch costume to [normal]
    go to x: [-190] y: [-150]
  if <touching color [■] ?> then
    say [Yeah!] for (1) secs
    stop [all]
  if <touching color [■] ?> then
    move (3) steps
```

This prevents glitching when the boat gets near the mouse pointer

If the boat touches a brown object, it switches to its 'hit' costume to show a crash

When the boat touches the yellow island, all scripts are stopped

GATE

This continually spinning gate provides a tricky obstacle.

```
when clicked
forever
  turn (1) degrees
```

STAGE

This code uses a variable to manage the on-screen timer.

```
when clicked
set [time] to [0]
forever
  wait (0.1) secs
  change [time] by [0.1]
```

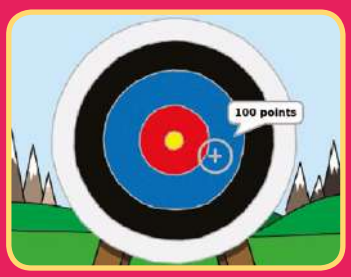
Now You Could Make...

You'll find lots more cool projects at rpf.io/ccprojects, including...

ARCHERY

Create an archery game, in which you have to shoot arrows as close to the bull's-eye as you can.

rpf.io/archery



BEAT THE GOALIE

Create a football game in which you have to score as many goals as you can in 30 seconds.

rpf.io/beat-the-goalie

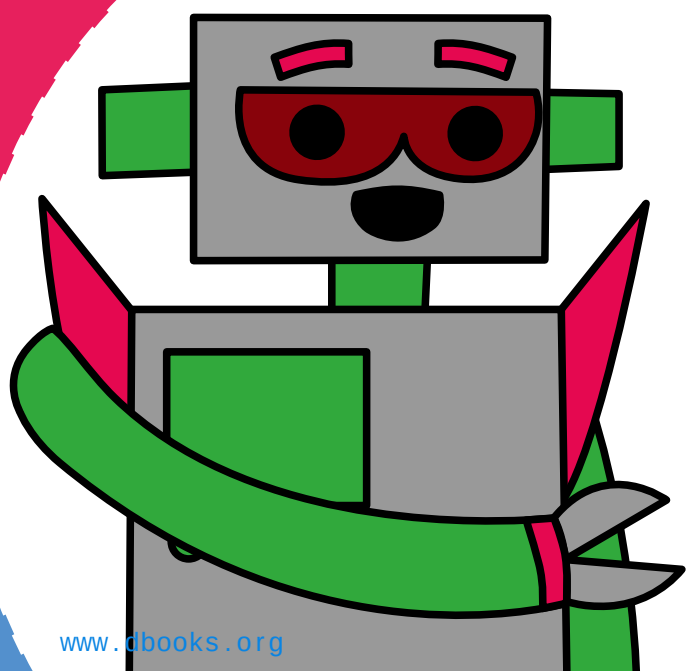
ADA'S POETRY GENERATOR

Learn how to create randomly generated poems! You will be using variables and selecting random items from lists in this poetic programming project.

rpf.io/ada-poetry

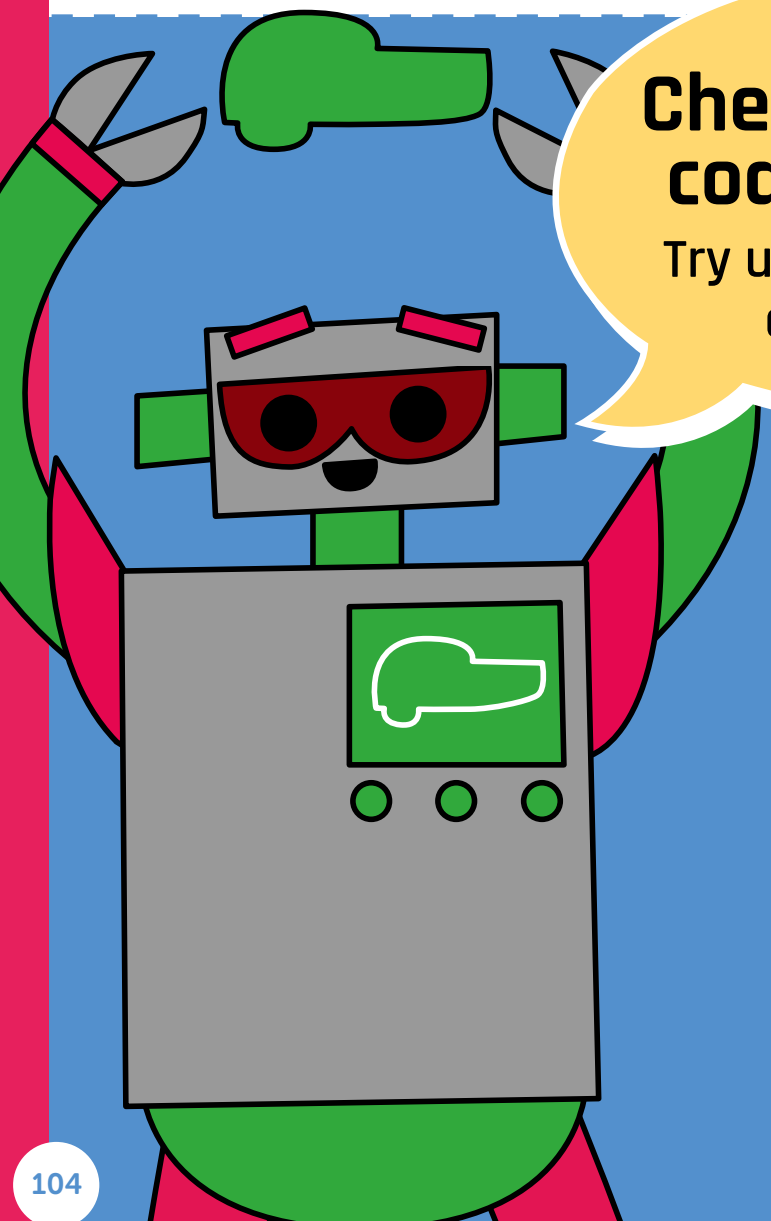
Want some handy code snippets?

Turn the page to find some useful scripts...



Useful Code

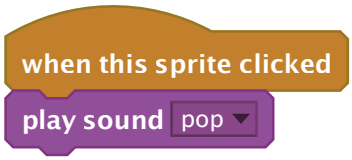
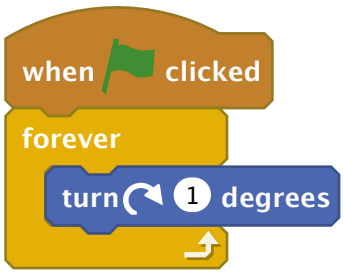
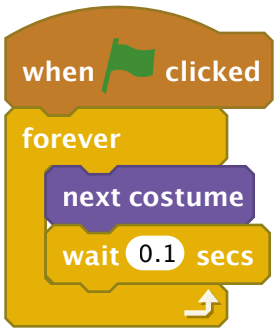
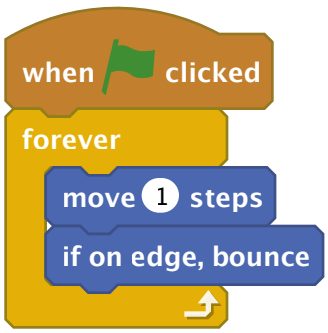
This chapter lists some useful code that you can use in your projects

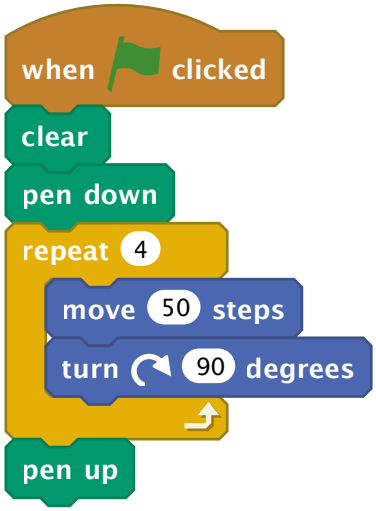
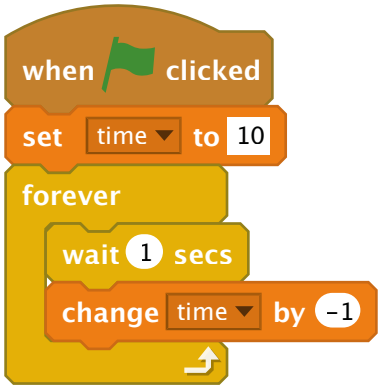


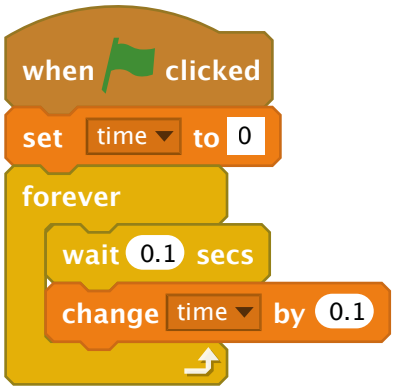
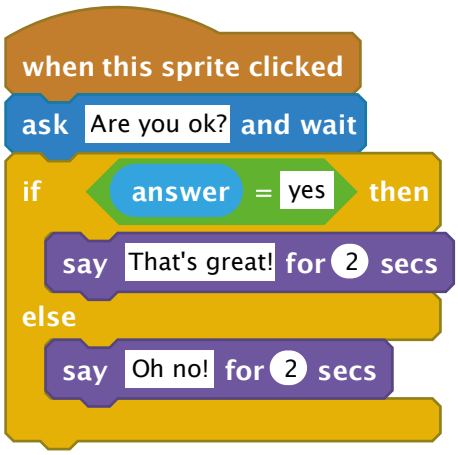
Check out these code snippets!

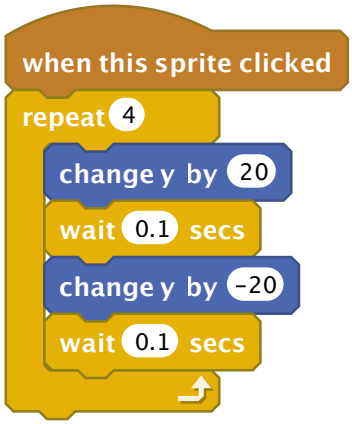
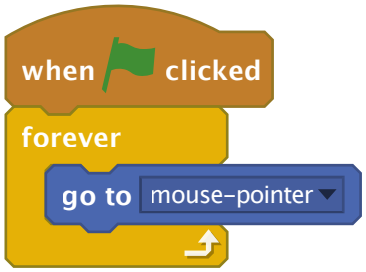
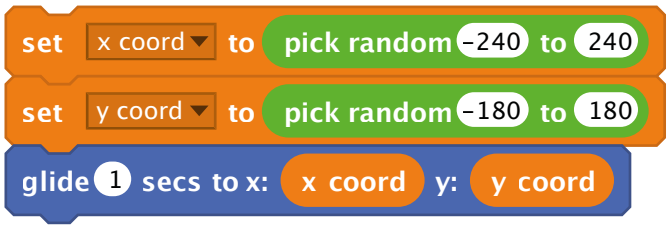
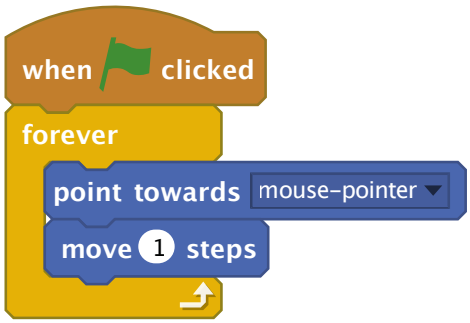
Try using them in your own projects!

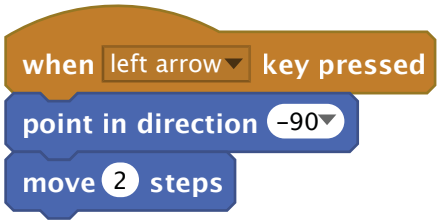
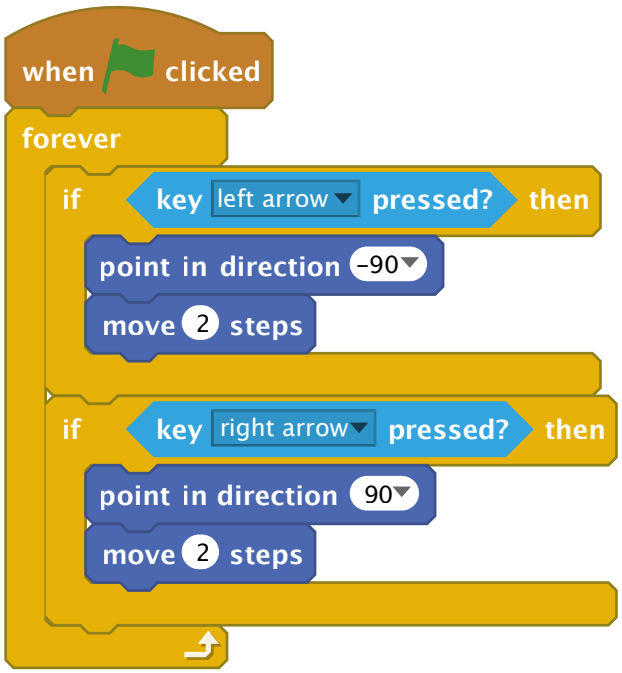
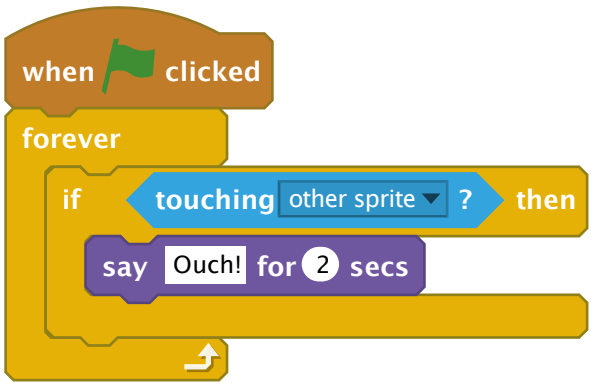
This reference guide contains useful Scratch scripts that you can incorporate into your own projects. Whatever you create, have fun coding!

DESCRIPTION	CODE
Playing a sound	
Spinning sprite	
Animating sprite costumes	
Bouncing sprite	

DESCRIPTION	CODE
Drawing a square	
Keeping score	 
Timer counting down	

DESCRIPTION	CODE
Timer counting up	
Asking a question and responding to the answer	
Storing the answer to a question in a variable	
Joining text together	

DESCRIPTION	CODE
Jumping sprite	
Following the mouse	
Glide to random stage co-ordinates	
Movement towards the mouse	

DESCRIPTION	CODE
Movement using the keyboard	 or... 
Check to see if a sprite has hit another sprite	

Puzzle Answers

Lost in Space

B	E	O	J	E	A	E	C	A	T	E	S	S	P	S
R	B	Y	E	U	R	P	O	A	S	R	S	O	C	T
A	B	S	A	M	P	O	M	T	L	T	A	O	R	T
P	E	C	R	B	A	I	E	S	E	N	R	E	L	U
T	A	G	N	M	L	O	T	C	A	A	P	D	I	N
A	V	S	T	M	O	N	K	E	Y	T	P	I	T	E
O	M	O	O	U	M	I	J	R	R	E	U	O	S	U
A	L	O	T	P	N	E	G	K	U	C	E	R	O	T
N	N	E	B	U	L	A	U	A	C	L	K	E	N	R
X	O	X	E	T	T	L	A	U	T	R	I	O	T	E
G	A	R	K	A	V	O	N	R	E	P	U	S	U	R
Y	R	E	X	R	O	E	T	E	M	S	T	A	R	E
R	A	Y	P	E	E	X	A	U	T	E	K	C	O	R
T	C	A	E	T	E	C	K	U	U	S	C	K	P	E
T	Y	R	Y	M	S	S	G	R	L	O	O	E	N	E

ASTEROID
COMET
ECLIPSE
GALAXY
JUPITER
METEOR
MONKEY
MOON
NEBULA
PLANET
ROCKET
SATURN
STAR
SUPERNOVA

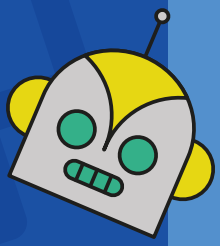
Enter the Crypt

7		B	U	N	Y	I	P	
6			D	E	V	I	L	
5			T	R	O	L	L	
4				M	U	M	M	Y
3				D	E	M	O	N
2		W	E	R	E	W	O	L	F
1			G	H	O	S	T	

Spot the Difference

Code Club Book of Scratch

Volume 1



Learn to code using Scratch, the block-based programming language. In each chapter you'll find instructions to build cool games, animations, and interactive stories. Your friendly robot guide will aid you step-by-step through each project and give you handy tips along the way.

Code Club is a global network of free coding clubs where young people aged 9-13 build and share their ideas with code. There are currently more than 12 000 clubs in over 150 countries.

codeclub.org

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