Coding arguments
Unplugged



Introduce arguments by having kids do a repetitive task.



OBJECTIVES

- 1. Students will be able to explain the advantage of using arguments
- 2. Students will be able to call functions with an argument



AGENDA

Length: 45 minutes

- 1. Warm-up Large pixel bot grid
- 2. Arguments Analogies Explore arguments using golf swing and drill bit analogies.
- Pixel bot challenge Solve pixel bot challenges with arguments



VOCAB

Argument - Specific value supplied to a function call



MATERIALS

- 1. Lesson 7 | Warm-up worksheet
- 2. Lesson 7 | Worksheet 1-1

- 3. Lesson 7 | Worksheet 1-2
- 4. Lesson 7 | Worksheet 1-3
- 5. Lesson 7 | Worksheet 2
- 6. Scratch paper grids
- 7. Small pixel bot cutout for each student
- 8. Magnetic pixel bot
- 9. Scratch paper grids
- 10. Pencils
- 11. Whiteboard





Length: 10 minutes

Students solve a puzzle in a large pixelbot grid.

Prep:

- Draw the Pixel Bot image from Lesson 7 | Warm-up worksheet on the whiteboard
- Distribute Lesson 7 | Warm-up worksheet

Teacher Actions		Student Actions	
1	Individual work: Ask students to write code to create the image from [Lesson 7 Warm- up worksheet] [warm-up].	1	Students individually fill out the [Lesson 7 Warm-up worksheet][warm- up]
2	Randomly call on one student at a time to provide each next line of code.	2	If called on, students provide the next line of code.
3	Discuss what made this particular picture difficult or frustrating to code. Possible answer: It required a lot of code because of the size of the grid.	3	Students raise their hands to provide an answer.



GOLF SWING AND DRILL BITS



Length: 20 minutes

Explore golf swing and drill bit analogies that help students arrive at concept of parameters/arguments.

Prep: Distribute Lesson 7 | Worksheet 1-1

Teacher Actions	Student Actions	
Individual work: Ask students to fill out [Lesson 7 Worksheet 1-1] [worksheet1-1].	Students fill out Lesson 7 Worksheet 1-1.	
As a whole class, pool students' ideas.	2 Students share ideas.	
Individual work: Hand out [Lesson 7 Worksheet 1-2] [worksheet1-2] and ask students to give it a try.	3 Students fill out [Lesson 7 Worksheet 1-2] [worksheet1-2].	
Discuss how to write the proper syntax for the golf and drill bit programs. Write	4 Students predict the teacher's code.	

a few examples of the syntax on the board and ask students to predict how far the ball would go or how big the hole would be. Individual work: Students fill out next 5 Hand out the next part of [Lesson 7 | [Lesson 7 | Worksheet 1-3] Worksheet 1-3] [worksheet1-3]. [worksheet1-3] Cont'd and ask students to map these ideas over to pixel bot. Discuss students' Students raise their 6 ideas for Question hands to provide 6. Answer: The answers process is exactly the same (the golf swing never changes; the drill and the drill motion never change), but we can customize the output by changing the inputs (golf club, drill bit).





Length: 5 minutes

Explain how to use arguments through observation.

Prep: None

Teacher Actions		Student Actions
1	Point students back to the problem on the whiteboard from Lesson 1 Warm-up worksheet.	
2	Tell students that the elements can use an argument. An argument is extra information to customize the output of a function. The argument goes in between the parenthesis that follow the name of the function. Example: up(5)	
3		3

	Ask students to say once again what the argument will do in the case of the movements? Answer: The number controls how many spaces to move in that direction.		Students raise their hand to provide an answer.
4	Add paint('blue')		
5	Ask students what they think the argument will do in the case of the paint icon? Answer: the argument controls what color the turtle will paint	5	Students raise their hand to provide an answer.
6	Ask students how changing the color next to the icon relates to changing clubs in the golf swing? Answer: In both examples, the action is the same (swing the golf club, paint the square) but the input can be	6	Students raise their hand to provide an answer.

changed to customize the output.	
7 Solve the warm up problem while narrating the steps out loud.	7 Students observe as the teacher demonstrates how to solve the problem using arguments.



CODING WITH ARGUMENTS



Length: 10 minutes

Students use arguments to solve coding challenges.

Prep:

• Distribute Lesson 7 | Worksheet 2

Teacher Actions	Student Actions	
Individual work: Students work on the problems on [Lesson 7 Worksheet 2] [worksheet2]. Remind students to use arguments to solve the problems more efficiently.	Students individually fill in the problems on their worksheet.	