Coding arguments
Unplugged



Introduce arguments by having kids do a very 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 10 | Warm-up worksheet
- 2. Lesson 10 | Worksheet 1

- 3. Lesson 10 | Worksheet 2
- 4. Laptops/Computers
- 5. Scratch paper grids
- 6. Small turtle cutout for each student
- 7. Magnetic turtle
- 8. Scratch paper grids
- 9. Pencils
- 10. Whiteboard





Length: 10 minutes

Students solve a puzzle in a large pixelbot grid.

Prep:

- Draw the Pixel Bot image from Lesson 10 | Warm-up worksheet on the whiteboard
- Distribute Lesson 10 | Warm-up worksheet

Teacher Actions		Student Actions	
1	Individual work: Ask students to write code to create the image from Lesson 10 Warm- up worksheet. Remind students that this exercise is using the icon language that they learned in Lesson 1.	1	Students individually fill out the Lesson 10 Warm-up worksheet
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 10 | Worksheet 1

Teacher Actions	Student Actions
for students. Show how the same golf swing is used for different clubs. Show the Lesson 10 Worksheet 1 golf diagram on the board and walk students through it.	
Model using a drill for students. Show how the same drill motion is used for different drill bits. Show the Lesson 10 Worksheet 1 drill bit diagram on the board and walk students through it.	

Point students' Students look at 3 3 Lesson 10 | attention to Lesson Worksheet 1 10 | Worksheet 1. Ask students to find what is similar about the two situations depicted. Individual work: **Students** Ask students to individually write write down an down their answers on the worksheet. answer. 5 With a partner, 5 Students get with a students discuss partner and discuss their answers. their findings. As a whole class, Students raise their 6 discuss the hands to offer similarities between answers. the two situations. Answer: The 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 into the space to the right of the element Example: → 5		
3	Ask students what they think the argument will do in	3	Students raise their hand to provide an answer.

the case of the arrows? Answer: The number controls how many spaces to move in that direction. Students raise their Ask students how adding a number hand to provide an next to the arrow answer. 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 changed to customize the output. Students observe as Solve the warm up 7 7 the teacher problem while narrating the steps demonstrates how out loud. to solve the problem using arguments.



CODING WITH ARGUMENTS



Length: 10 minutes

Students use arguments to solve coding challenges.

Prep:

• Distribute Lesson 10 | Worksheet 2

Teacher Actions	Student Actions	
Individual work: Students work on the problems on Lesson 10 Worksheet 2. Remind students to use arguments to solve the problems more efficiently.	Students individually fill in their worksheet.	