**INTRODUCTION TO KOTLIN**

**What is Kotlin?**

Welcome to the world of coding with Kotlin!

Kotlin is a programming language that, after its release in 2016 by [JetBrains](https://www.jetbrains.com/), quickly gained popularity amongst developers due to its concise syntax, additional safety features, and compatibility with the Java programming language.

Being a general-purpose programming language, Kotlin can be used for Android development, web development, data science, and more. In 2019, [Google announced Kotlin as their preferred language](https://android-developers.googleblog.com/2019/05/google-io-2019-empowering-developers-to-build-experiences-on-Android-Play.html) for Android development.

The following applications use Kotlin in their tech stack:

* Netflix
* Duolingo
* Pinterest
* And more!

Throughout this lesson, we’ll learn about Kotlin syntax and how to run a basic program.

**Instructions**

Take a look at the image to the right. Codey is starting on the path to Dev City which is filled with mobile apps, websites, and other applications.

In order to reach Dev City, one must journey through various landscapes like Variable Valley, Conditional Creek, Land of Loops, and Function Forest.

In fact, this journey to Dev City is quite similar to the sequence of topics you’ll encounter throughout this course. By completing each section of this course, you’ll have gained a strong understanding of programming fundamentals in Kotlin.

When you’re ready to continue, hit **Next**.

