

Teacher's Guide to GitHub

Copper Country Coders

2020

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How to Get to GitHub

CCCoders is using GitHub as our official communication channel for sending code stubs to students as well as the means by which students can back up their code. To get started, navigate to <https://github.com/CCCoders>. If you do not currently have an account, you will need to first create one, then contact <NAME GOES HERE> to be added to the CCCoders team as an Owner. Please remember that your GitHub username and Avatar need to be family friendly.

Roles in CCCoders GitHub Organization

To maintain a tidy codebase and ensure everyone has appropriate permissions, we will structure the GitHub Organization as follows:

Roles: there are two roles in a team: Owner and Member. All teachers and advisors will be Owners, meaning they have the ability to create new repos, move/change/rename repos, and add new team members. All students will be members. This means they will have the ability to create new repos, contribute to existing repos, and download code from repos. It is the responsibility of teachers to help students create GitHub accounts and explain the ground rules for using GitHub. The list below is not comprehensive, but would be a good place to start with your students.

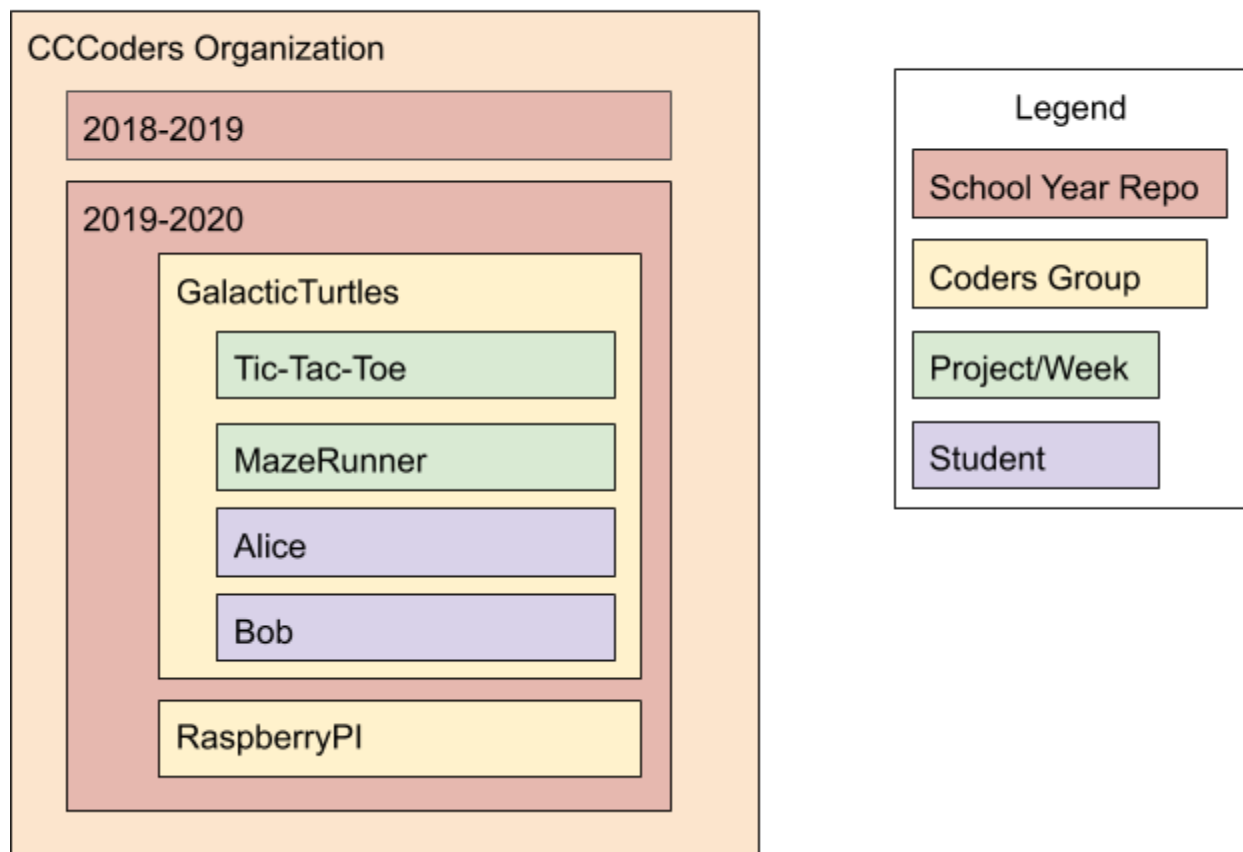
Ground Rules for Using GitHub

1. Do not post code that you didn't write.
2. Do not modify or delete code that is not your own unless you have received permission from the code's owner.
3. Do not create new repositories
4. Only upload/download code as directed by your teacher.
5. If you don't know what a button does, please ask before clicking it.

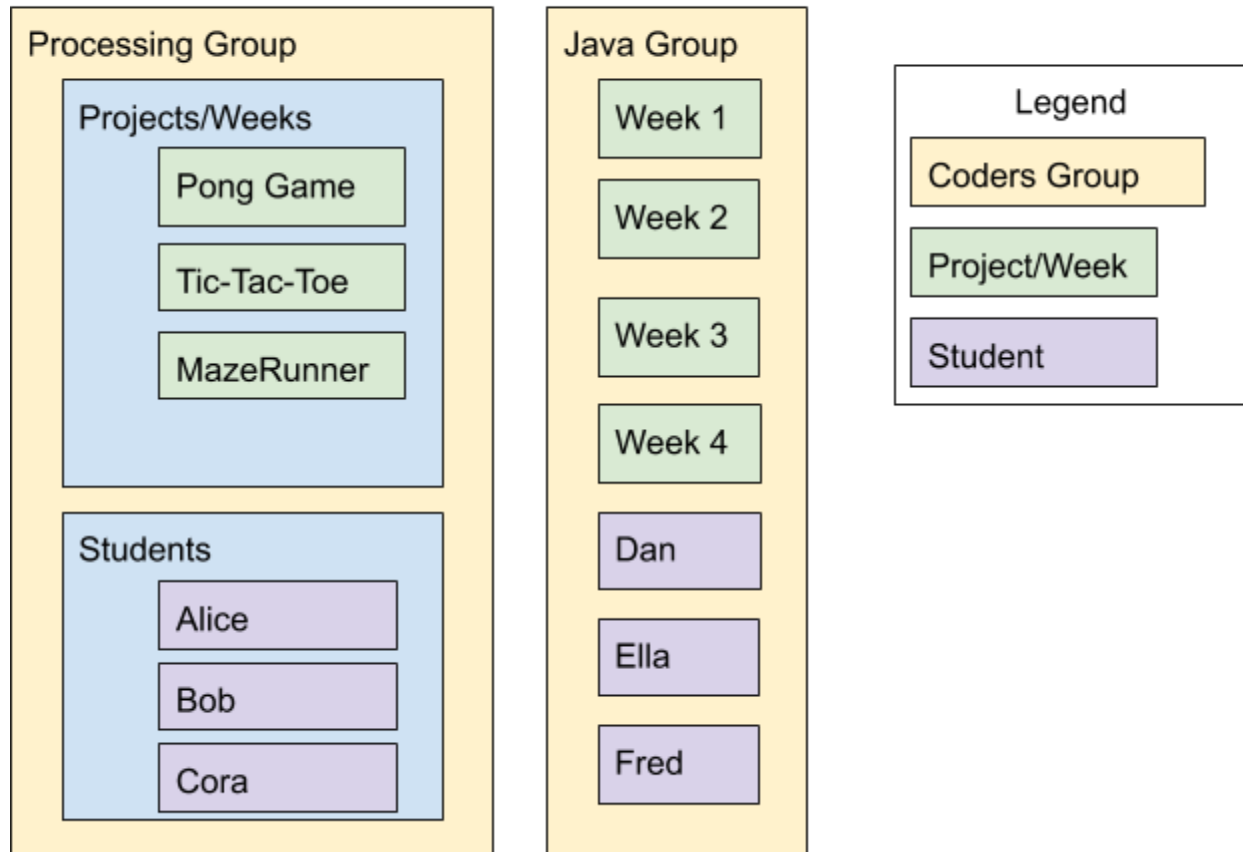
Structure of CCCoders GitHub Organization

The overall structure of the GitHub Organization will be as follows: There will one repository per school year, clearly labeled (e.g. 2019-2020). Within this repository, each group will have a folder labeled with it's group name. This can be either a general descriptor (e.g. "Raspberry_PI_Group"), the name(s) of the group leaders (e.g. "Katie_and_Laura", or a creative team name (e.g. "GalacticTurtles"). Within this folder, group leaders are responsible to create a sub-hierarchy of folders. This can be done either with one folder per week to distribute code stubs to students, or by project. You might want to consider the maturity level of your students, and whether your course is organized by project or by week. Teachers will also want to create a subfolder for each student to be able to upload their code. A sample year can be found in 2019-2020.

Overall Organization of the CCCoders GitHub



Alternate Organization Options within a Coders' Group



You should encourage your students to label each project and upload it within their individual subfolder.

Note: When you create a folder for each of your students, you should include two files in it initially. The first file can be a little welcome blurb about who's teaching and what sort of projects you're going to be doing for the year. The second file should be the student guide to using GitHub so that they have it available for reference.

How to Create a Subfolder for Your Group:

Option 1: Command-line

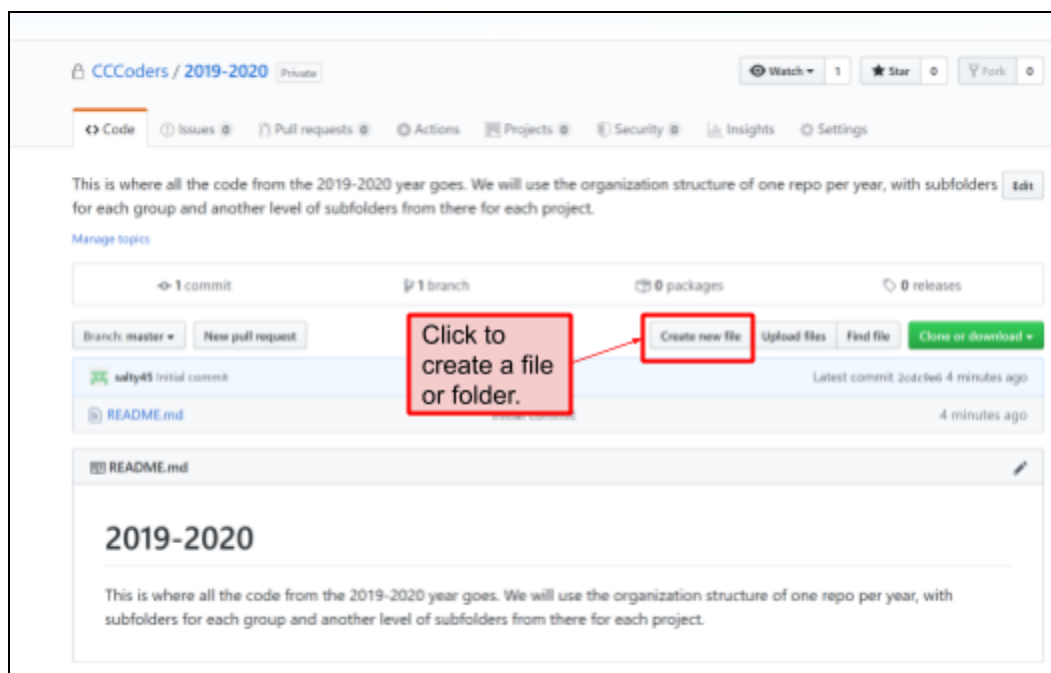
You need to know what you're doing with initializing a repo at the command-line for this. If you're already comfortable with that, go ahead. Otherwise, skip to Option 2.

Option 2: Upload an already prepared subfolder to GitHub. See [Uploading Folders](#) for more information.

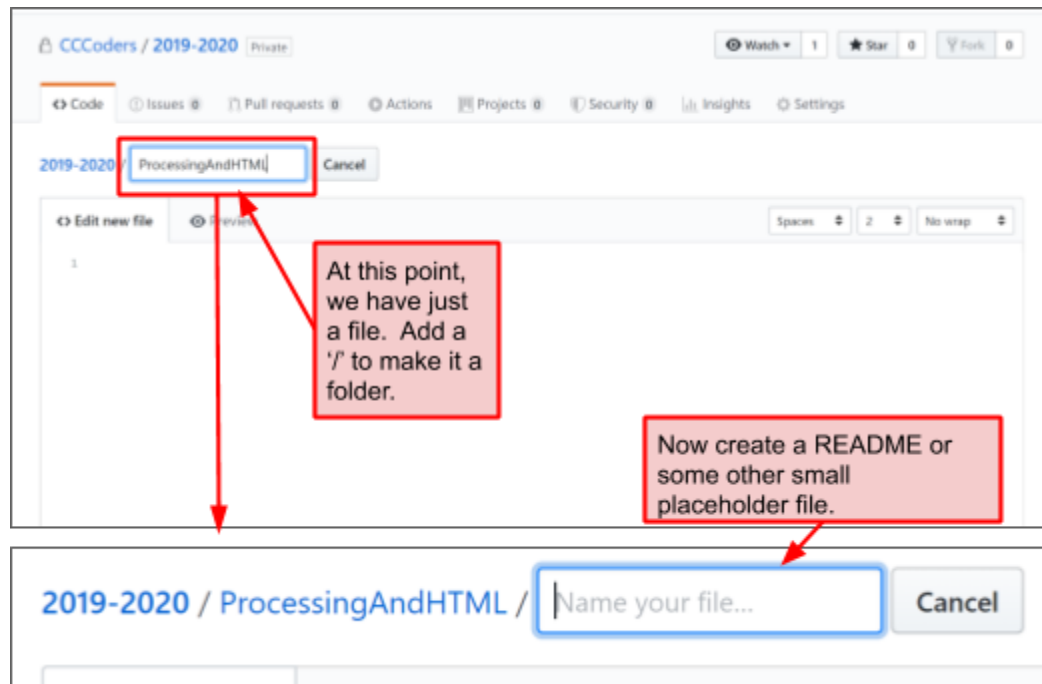
Option 3: Create a folder with a README from the online interface in Github.

First, log into Github and navigate to the repo you're modifying. Then click Create new file. This will open a page for entering a filename and typing content. If you only want to add a file and not a subfolder, this means you're done. However, you want to add a folder. This means you'll need to create a foldername followed by a filename. The new file can be just a README to say what the folder's for. Then click commit to save your folder.

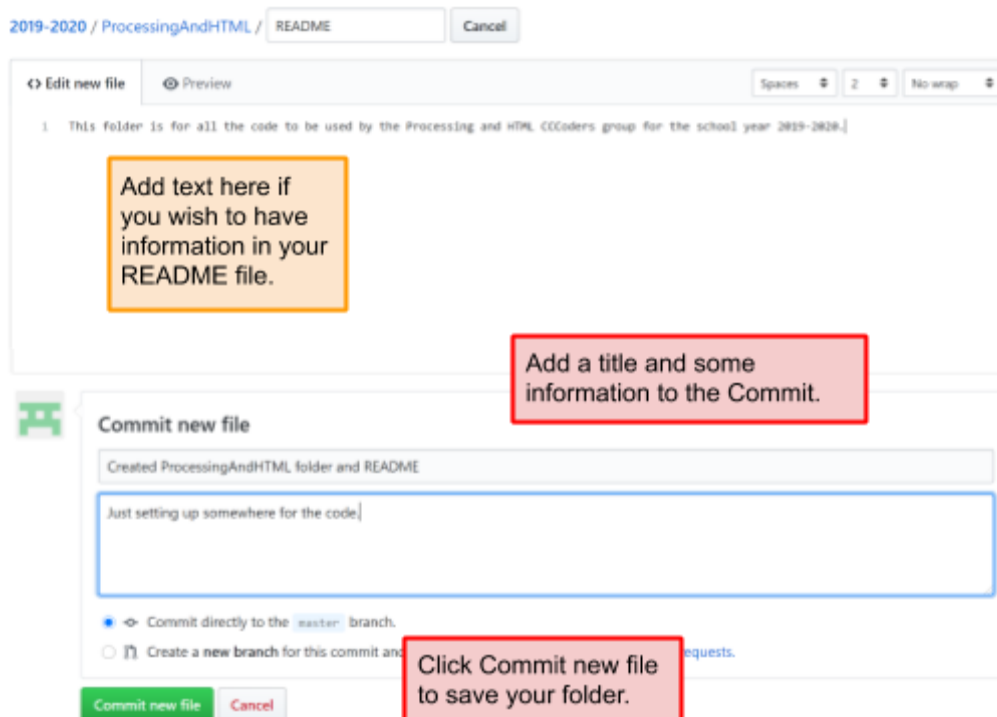
Step 1: Click to create a folder.



Step 2: Give your folder a name and create a README file within it.



Step 3: Add text to the file, add a message for committing (i.e. saving) the folder, and click commit.

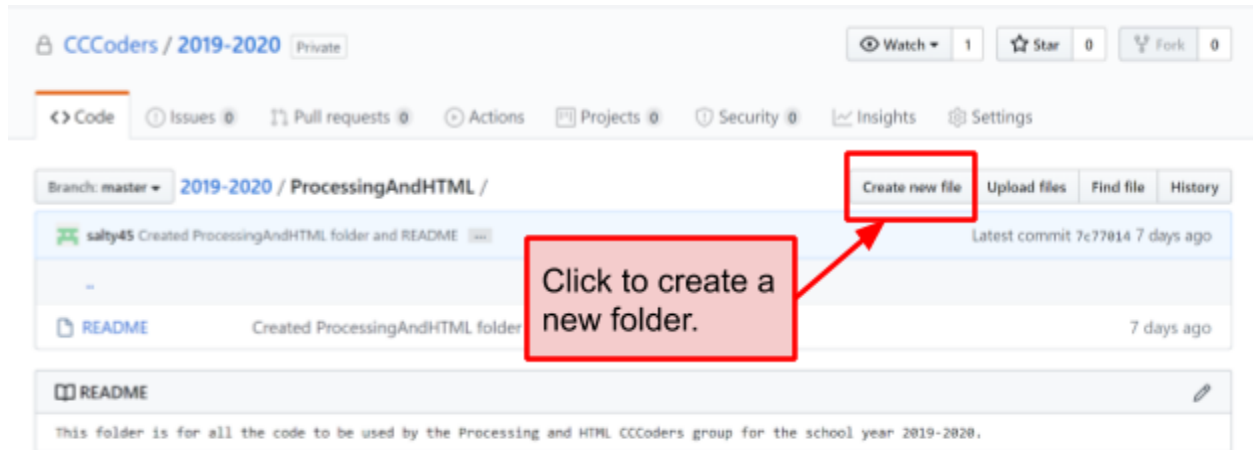


You should now see the new folder when you click on the 2019-2020 repo main page.

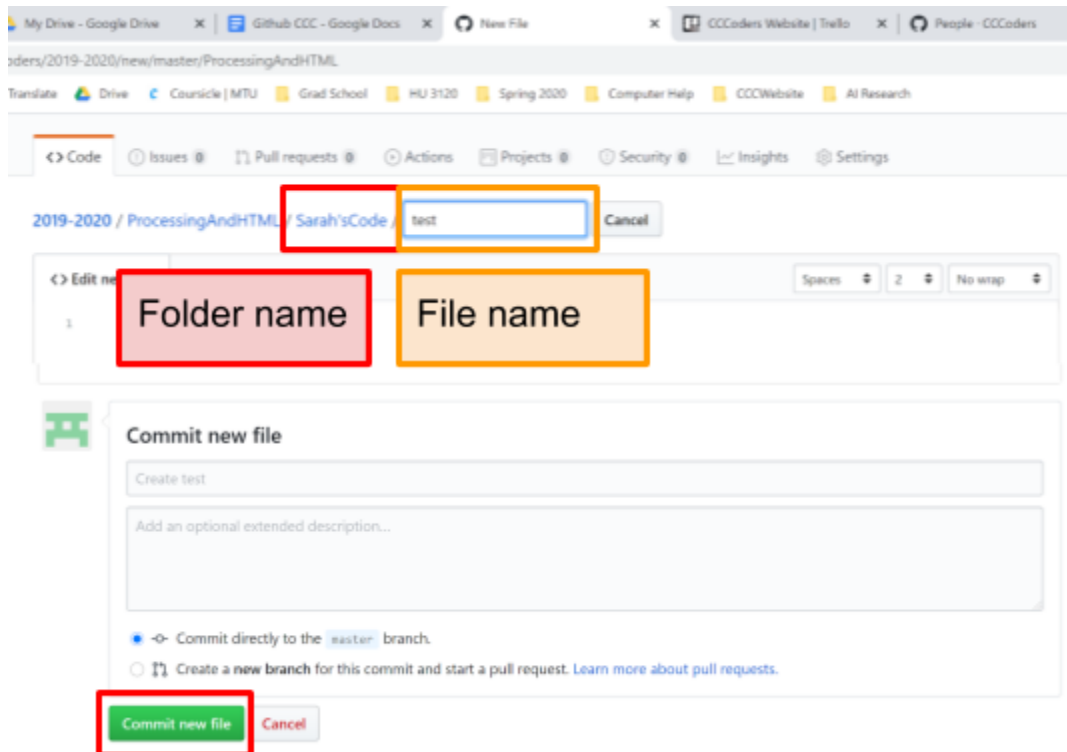
How to Create a Subfolder for Projects/Students

Now you've got your main folder for your group. You still need to create subfolders for each week or project. First navigate to your group's folder. Then, create a subfolder. This will be much like creating a folder for your group. This section discusses creating a subfolder. If you prefer to upload one, see Uploading Folders.

Step 1: Click "Create new file" to create your folder



Step 2: Name your folder, add a "/" and then a filename. Then click Commit new file.

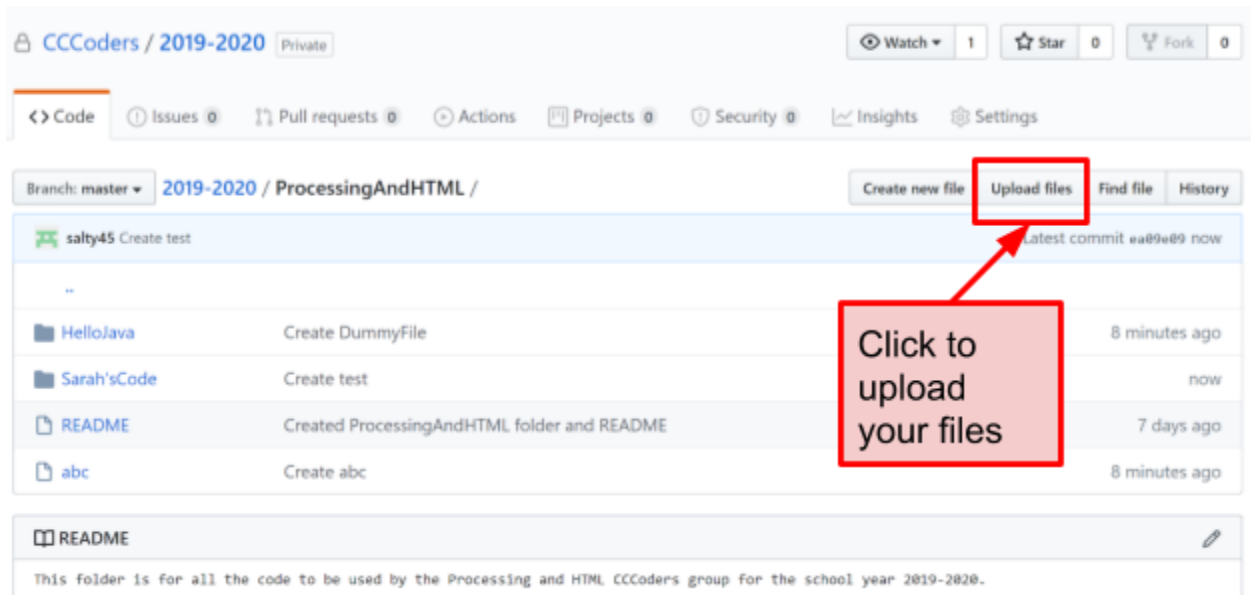


The newly created subfolder will now appear within your group's folder.

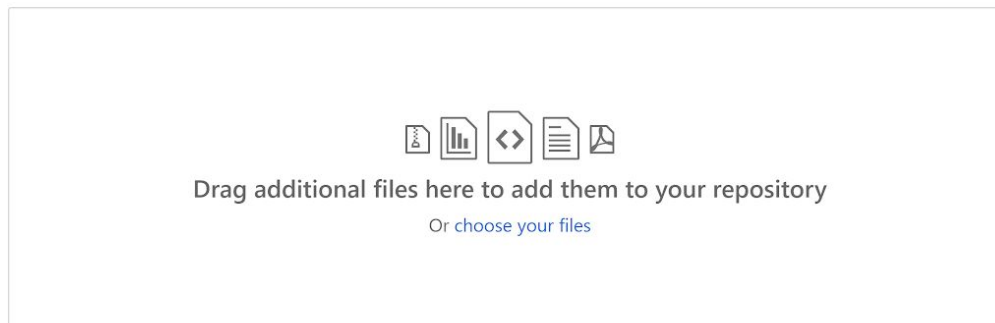
Uploading Code to GitHub

Now you have a set of (mostly) empty folders but no code. The next step is to upload your code to GitHub. To do this, navigate to the folder to which you wish to add code, and click “Upload Files”.

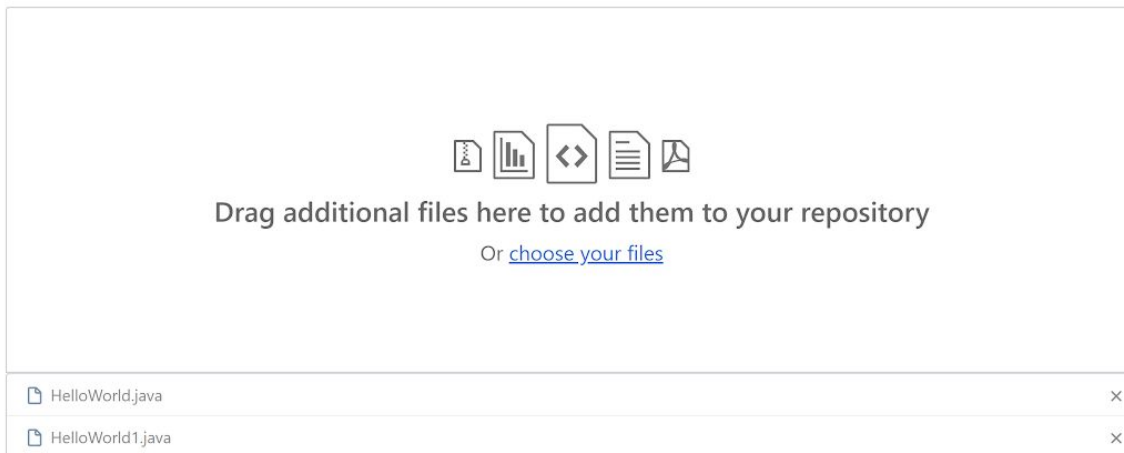
Step 1: Click Upload Files



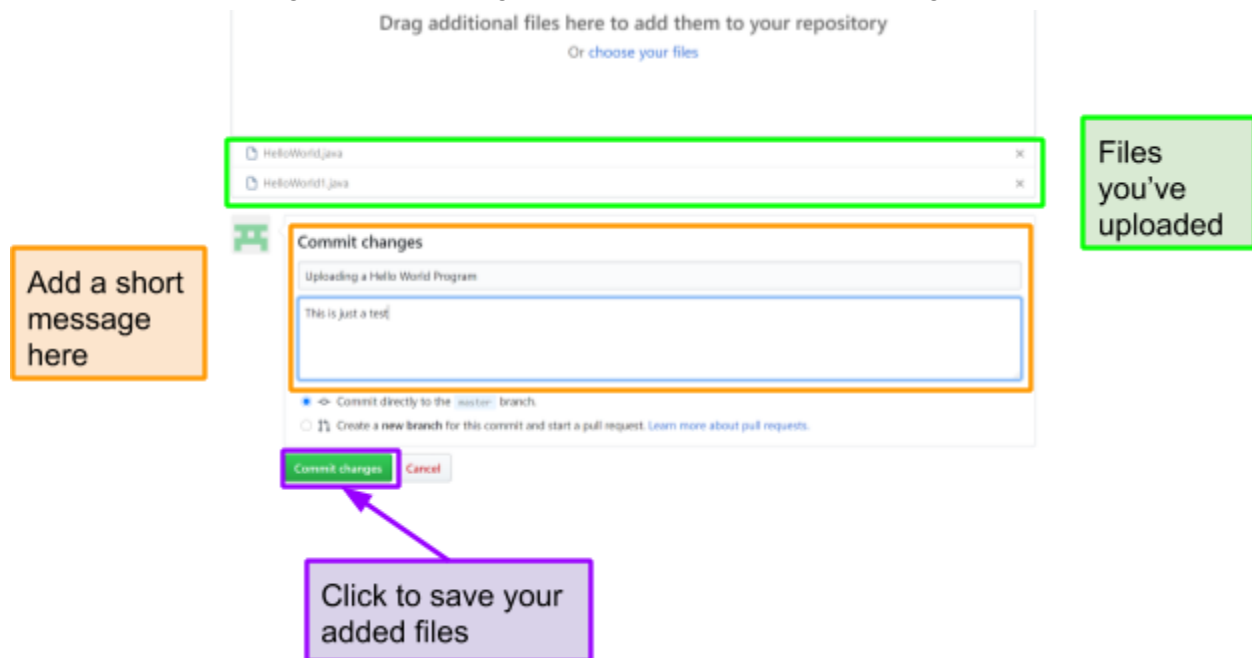
Step 2: Upload the files for this folder. You can either click “choose your files” or drag and drop the files onto the background.



Once you've selected your files, they should appear in a list below the upload area.



Step 3: Add a message for committing the files and click “commit changes”.



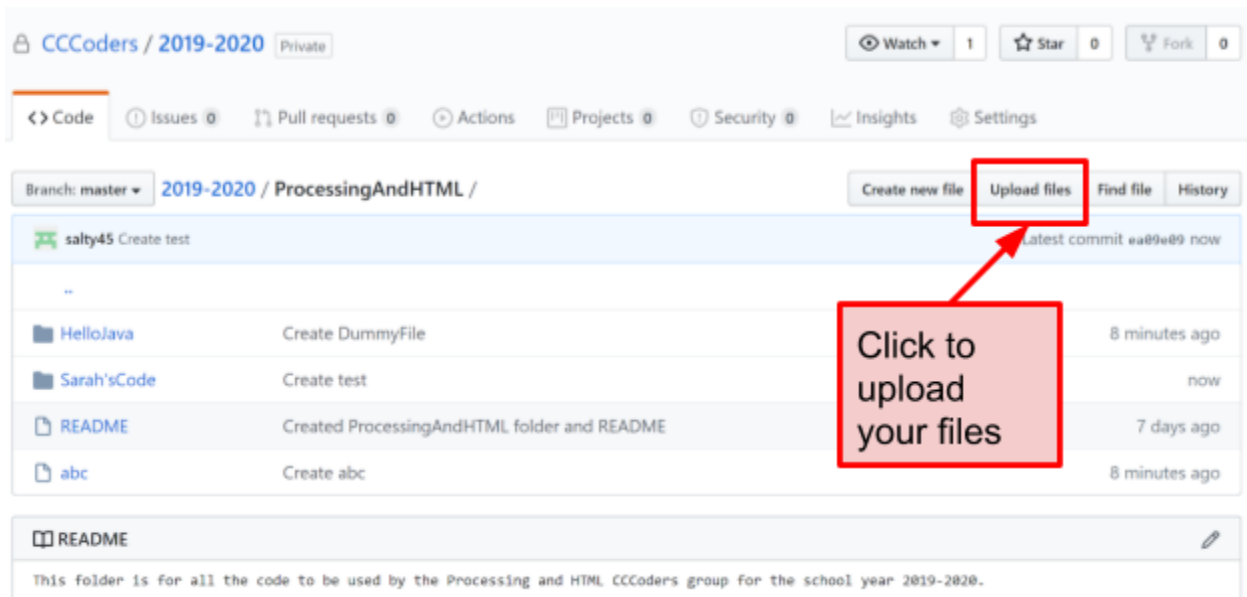
Your new files should now be saved.

Note: GitHub will not let you upload a full folder through the web interface when you click “choose your files” unless it is a zip file. If you want to upload a full folder without zipping it, you need to drag and drop it instead as shown in the next section.

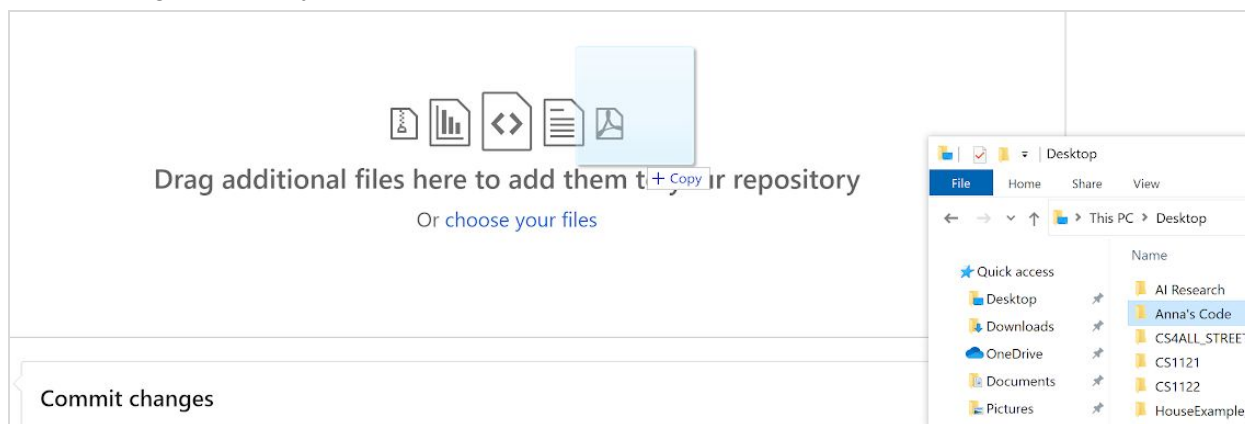
Uploading a Folder of Code to GitHub

If you have multiple files of code to upload to GitHub for a single project, you may want to upload it as a folder instead of creating a folder and uploading the files individually. To do this, you'll need to have a good way to use drag and drop with your files.


Step 1: Click Upload Files






Step 2: Drag and drop your folder from a file explorer onto the upload window




The code should then upload including the folder name in the file path.




Drag additional files here to add them to your repository
Or [choose your files](#)


 /Anna's Code/HelloWorld.class	×
 /Anna's Code/HelloWorld.java	×
 /Anna's Code/HelloWorld1.java	×


 **Commit changes**

Step 3: Add a title for your commit and click “commit changes”.



Drag additional files here to add them to your repository
Or [choose your files](#)

 /Anna's Code/HelloWorld.class × || /Anna's Code/HelloWorld.java | × |

 **Commit changes**

Uploading a Hello World Program

This is just a test

☒ Commit directly to the `master` branch.

☐ Create a new branch for this commit and start a pull request. [Learn more about pull requests.](#)

Commit changes Cancel

Click to save your added files

Files you've uploaded

Add a short message here

Downloading Code from GitHub

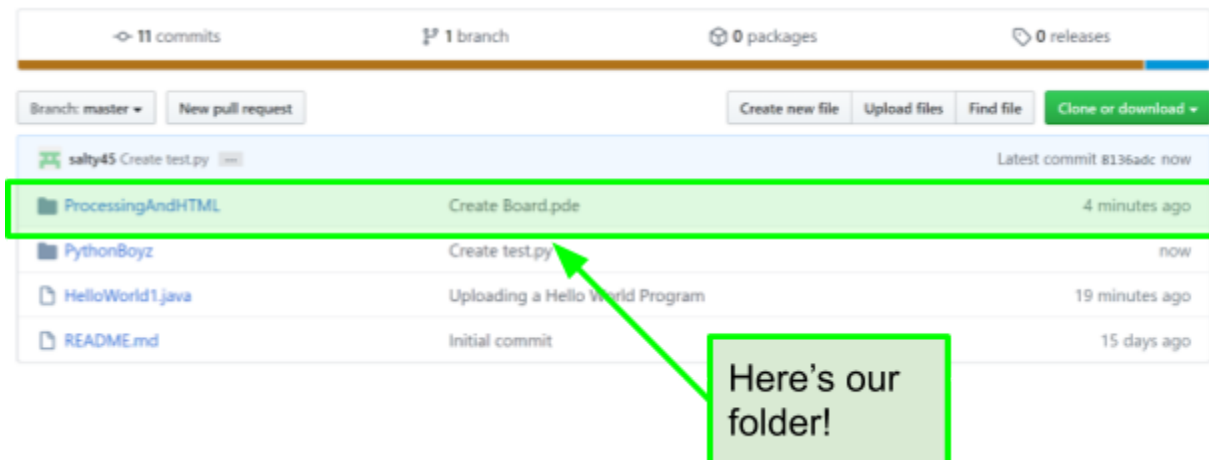
Please familiarize yourself with the downloading instructions copied from the student booklet below. Your students will probably have many questions as to whether they're doing this "right" the first couple of times. Unfortunately, GitHub doesn't let you download an individual file, so your students will be having to copy and paste the code over.

Depending on how comfortable you are with the Linux command line and GitHub, and how advanced your students are, you may also want to teach them how to download each week's code to a specific location using command-line git. This would probably be appropriate for mature high school students learning a language like Python or Java.

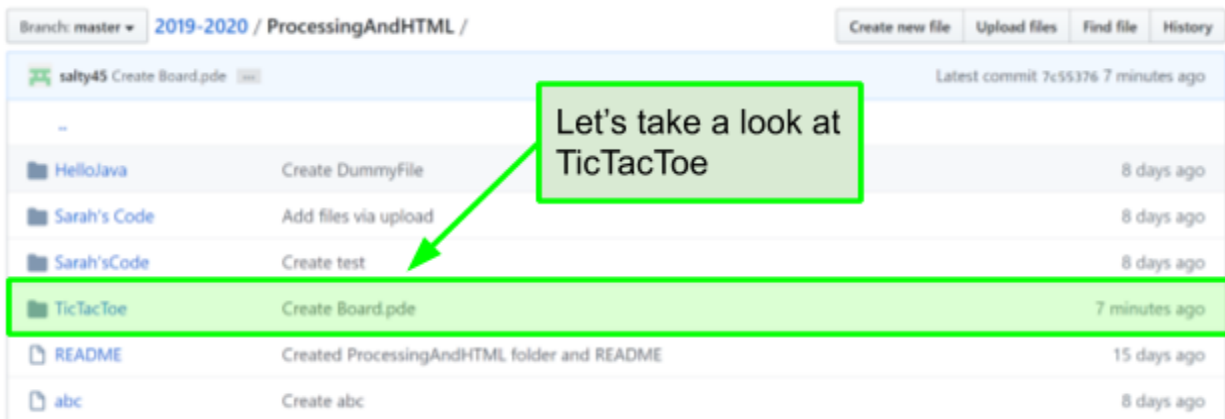
Extract from Student Booklet

One of the main reasons we're using GitHub for CCCoders is to make it easy to access code teachers want to share for each week. To get started doing this, go to the GitHub website <https://github.com/CCCoders/CurrentYear/> and locate your group's folder. Your teachers will have told you which folder it is. Then, click on the folder for this week's project. Below, we will work through an example to get code from a ProcessingAndHTML group project.

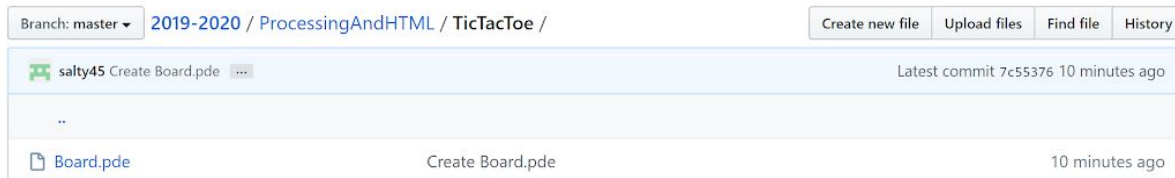
Step 1: Find your group's folder and click on its name.



Step 2: Find the folder for your current project (or the folder with your name on it).



Step 3: Click on a file to view it



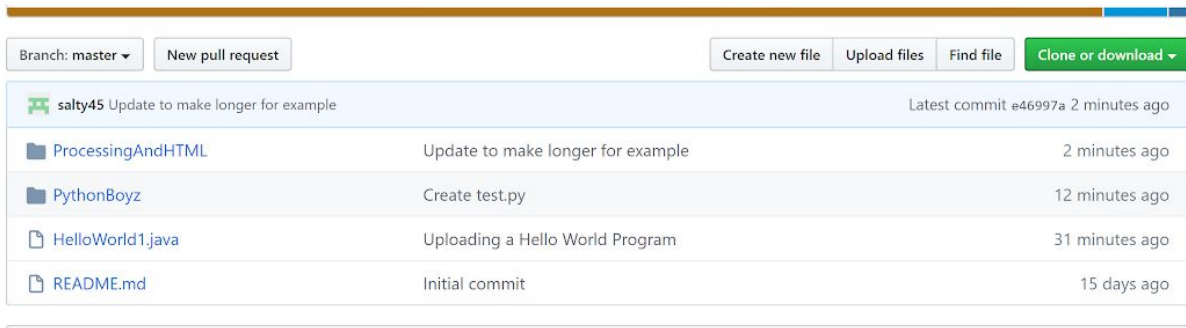
You should see something like this:



Step 4: Create a file on your computer with the same name as the one in GitHub. Then copy and paste the code in.

You have now successfully accessed the code.

Note: You might see a green “Clone or Download” button in the main folder.



The screenshot shows a GitHub repository interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with a "Branch: master" dropdown, a "New pull request" button, and buttons for "Create new file", "Upload files", "Find file", and a green "Clone or download" button. Below this, a commit history table is displayed. The table has three columns: a file/folder icon and name, a description of the commit, and the time since the commit. The commits are listed in reverse chronological order.

File/Folder	Description	Time
ProcessingAndHTML	Update to make longer for example	2 minutes ago
PythonBoyz	Create test.py	12 minutes ago
HelloWorld1.java	Uploading a Hello World Program	31 minutes ago
README.md	Initial commit	15 days ago

This isn't the best way to get your code because it will download the code for every group, not just your group. That's a lot of code to be downloading and searching through!