



# Introduction to p5js

---

Creative coding platform in JavaScript



# p5.js

[Download](#) \* [Start](#) \* [Reference](#) \* [Libraries](#) \* [Learn](#) \* [Community](#)

Hello! p5.js is a JavaScript library that starts with the original goal of [Processing](#), to make coding accessible for artists, designers, educators, and beginners, and reinterprets this for today's web.

## What is p5js?

Using the original metaphor of a software sketchbook, p5.js has a full set of drawing functionality. However, you're not limited to your drawing canvas, you can think of your whole browser page as your sketch! For this, p5.js has addon [libraries](#) that make it [easy to interact](#) with other HTML5 objects, including text, input, video, webcam, and sound.

# What is p5js?

- p5 is a JavaScript library
- It can be combined with other JavaScript libraries carefully but it should control the canvas.
- JavaScript is a Object Oriented (OO) scripting language used client side to add functionality, graphics, sound and more to a webpage
- JavaScript is the wild west of languages. There are as many flavors of JavaScript as there are ice cream.





# Algorithmic Design

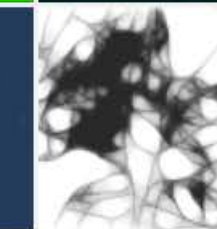
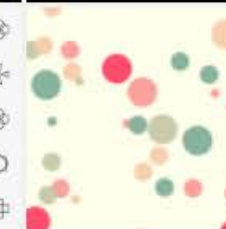
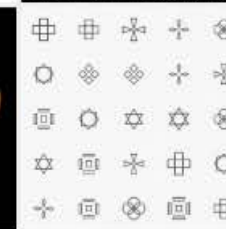
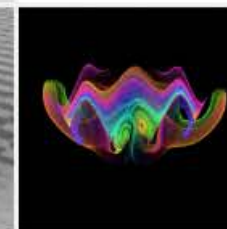
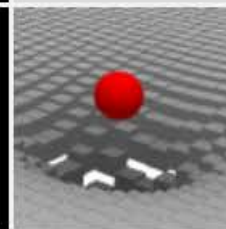
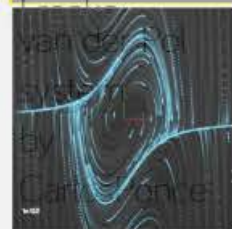
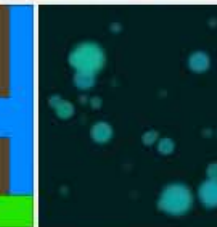
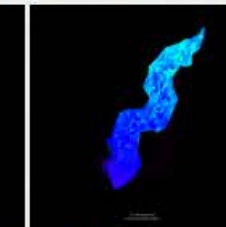
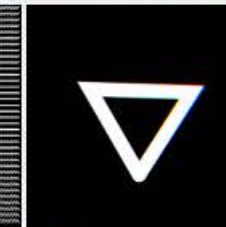
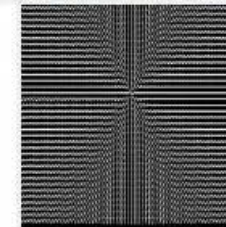
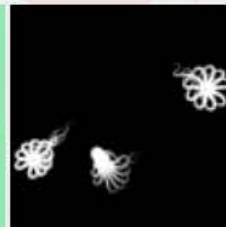
for the Creative Hive

Create, fork and explore interactive sketches in p5js?

# Openprocessing.org

Sketches that received s this week

Geometric  
Animations /  
161016  
by Saskia





A hackable text editor  
for the 21st Century

Download Windows 64-bit Installer

For Windows 7 64-bit or later

[Release notes](#) - [Other platforms](#) - [Beta releases](#)

How do I make a project?

Project

JS text-editor-element.js

Settings

atom

272

273

```
getComponent () {
```

Download

Start

Reference

Libraries

Tutorials

Examples

Books

Community

Forum

[Foundation](#), a nonprofit organization devoted to advancing the role of programming within the visual arts through developing p5.js.

[Donate here.](#)

## Complete Library

p5.js complete

---

**\***

Includes:

p5.js, p5.dom.js, p5.sound.js, and an example project

Version 0.5.4 (October 1, 2016)



Download p5js complete from  
[p5js.org](#)

## Single Files

p5.js

p5.min.js

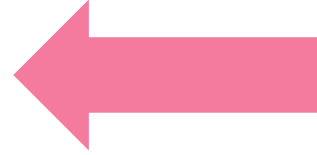
CDN



› Downloads › p5 › p5-zip

Name

- addons
- empty-example
- .DS\_Store
- p5.js
- p5.min.js



Copy the empty-example folder and rename it. It can live anywhere on your hard drive.

# Making a project

- Download p5
- Download atom, a software integrated developing environment (IDE)
- You can add packages to Atom to extend the functionality: browser-plus, p5jxs-autocomplete, p5js-snippets are 3 good ones to get started.
- Markdown is an easy way to write syntax. Consider adding some markdown functionality for fiction and documentation writing as an added win.



Where do I write my code?

```
3 Author: Phoenix Perry
4 Code Liberation
5 Created: 22-07-17
6 */
7
8
9 var gameState = "startScreen"; //this
  • will change as we play the game
10 var isTouching = false; //checks if
  • circles are touching
11 var score = 0;
12 var speed = 5;
13 var ui_color;
14 var ui_text_color;
15 var ui_accent_color;
16 var enemySize = 100; //size of enemy
17 enemy_y_pos = 0; //for keeping track of
  • enemy location
18
19 var playerSize = 100; //size of player
```

```
3 <head>
4 <script
  • src="https://cdnjs.cloudflare.com/ajax
  • p5.min.js"></script>
5 <script
  • src="https://cdnjs.cloudflare.com/ajax
  • addons/p5.dom.min.js"></script>
6 <script
  • src="https://cdnjs.cloudflare.com/ajax
  • addons/p5.sound.min.js"></script>
7 <script src="sketch.js"></script>
8 <link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css"
9 <style> body {padding: 0; margin: 0;} <
10 </head>
11 <body>
12 </body>
13 </html>
```

Can I take notes in my code?

Yes. Do it always

```
//for a one line comment.  
/*for an entire novel that will  
take up multiple lines about your  
love for cats*/
```



The day you write your code



Two weeks later



How do I make a project?

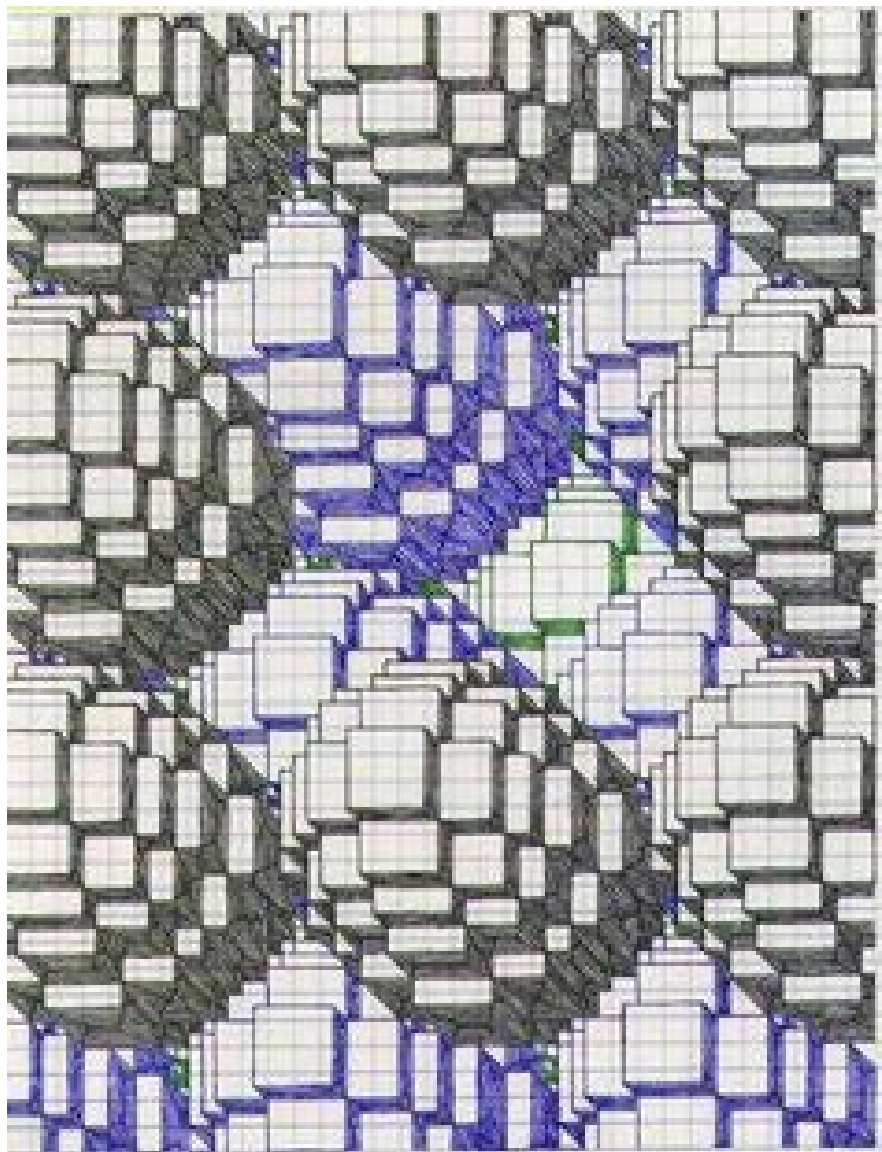
# What is going on in sketch.js?

```
1  function setup() {  
2  
3  }  
4  
5  function draw() {  
6  
7  }
```



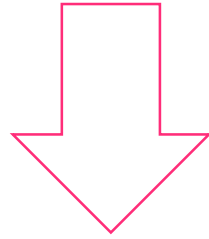


setup() is where you get everything prepared

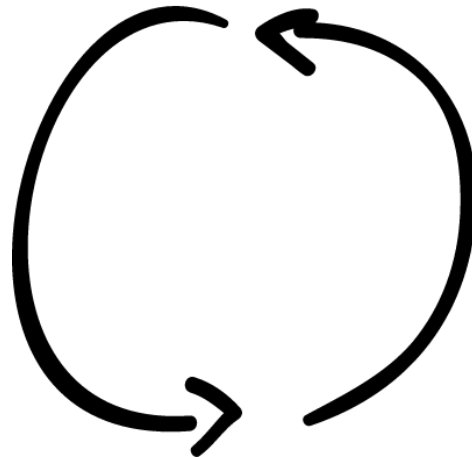


`draw()` is where you draw your art and update your mathy bits

setup()



draw()







# Main functions of p5js

`setup()`: runs just once at the start of the app  
Good place to set up initial player variables like  
`player_health=100;`

`draw()`: runs continuously once per frame.  
It's where you should put your drawings like  
`player.draw();`

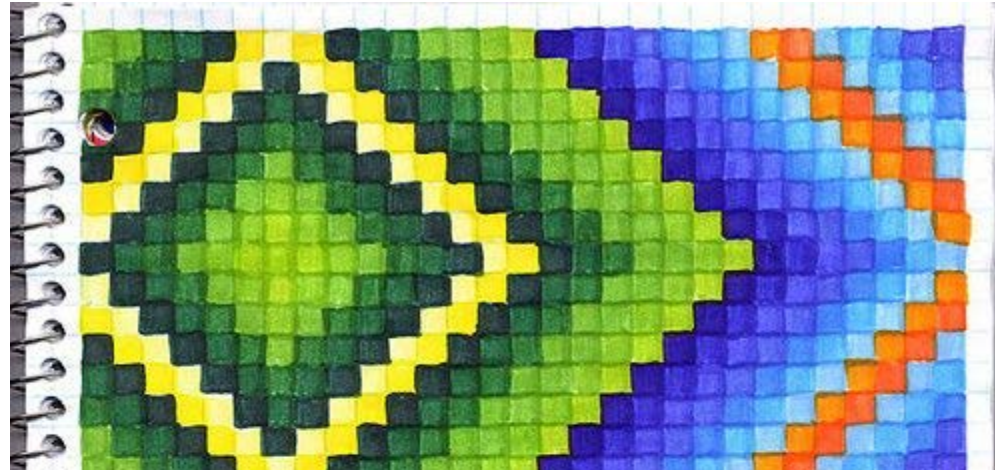


listeners

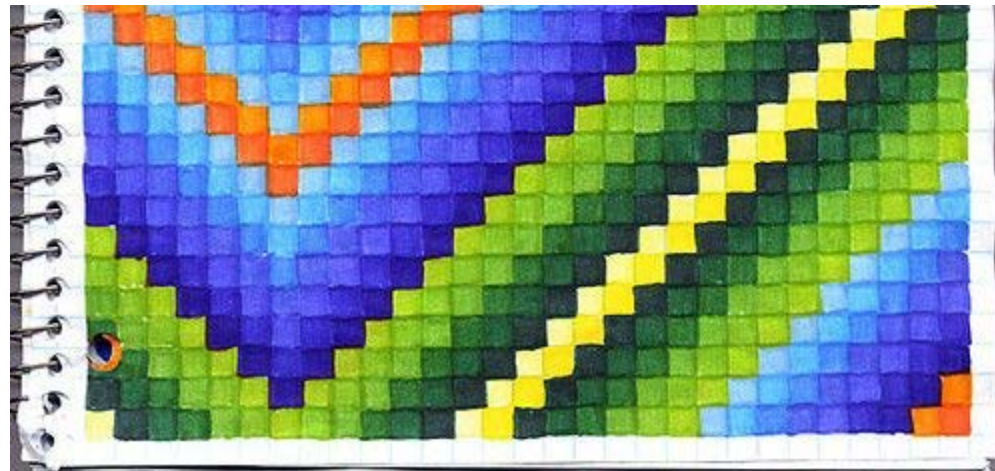


# Listeners listen for events

- **Events** are often things users do, such a click a mouse, drag a mouse or press a key
- **mousePressed()** is one of these in p5. This will run the second the mouse is pressed
- **keyPressed()** is another. It will run the second a key is pressed



How do I draw stuff?



# Functions

- **Function:** a named section of a program that does a specific task
  - Wraps up code in an easy to reference, repeatable way
  - Can be reused over and over
  - They are used by calling them
- **Parameter:** additional information you can give your function to change the starting state

# Bake me a cake!

**Baking a cake:**

The action (function)

**Chocolate:** additional info that affects the actions  
(parameters)



Wait! I still don't know how to  
draw stuff.

# Shape

## 2D Primitives

`arc()`

`ellipse()`

`line()`

`point()`

`quad()`

`rect()`

`triangle()`

## Attributes

`ellipseMode()`

`noSmooth()`

`rectMode()`

`smooth()`

`strokeCap()`

`strokeJoin()`

`strokeWeight()`

## Curves

`bezier()`

`bezierPoint()`

`bezierTangent()`

`curve()`

`curveTightness()`

`curvePoint()`

`curveTangent()`

## Vertex

`beginContour()`

`beginShape()`

`bezierVertex()`

`curveVertex()`

`endContour()`

`endShape()`

`quadraticVertex()`

`vertex()`



# Color

Creating &  
Reading

`alpha()`

`blue()`

`brightness()`

`color()`

`green()`

`hue()`

`lerpColor()`

`lightness()`

`red()`

`saturation()`

Setting

`background()`

`clear()`

`colorMode()`

`fill()`

`noFill()`

`noStroke()`

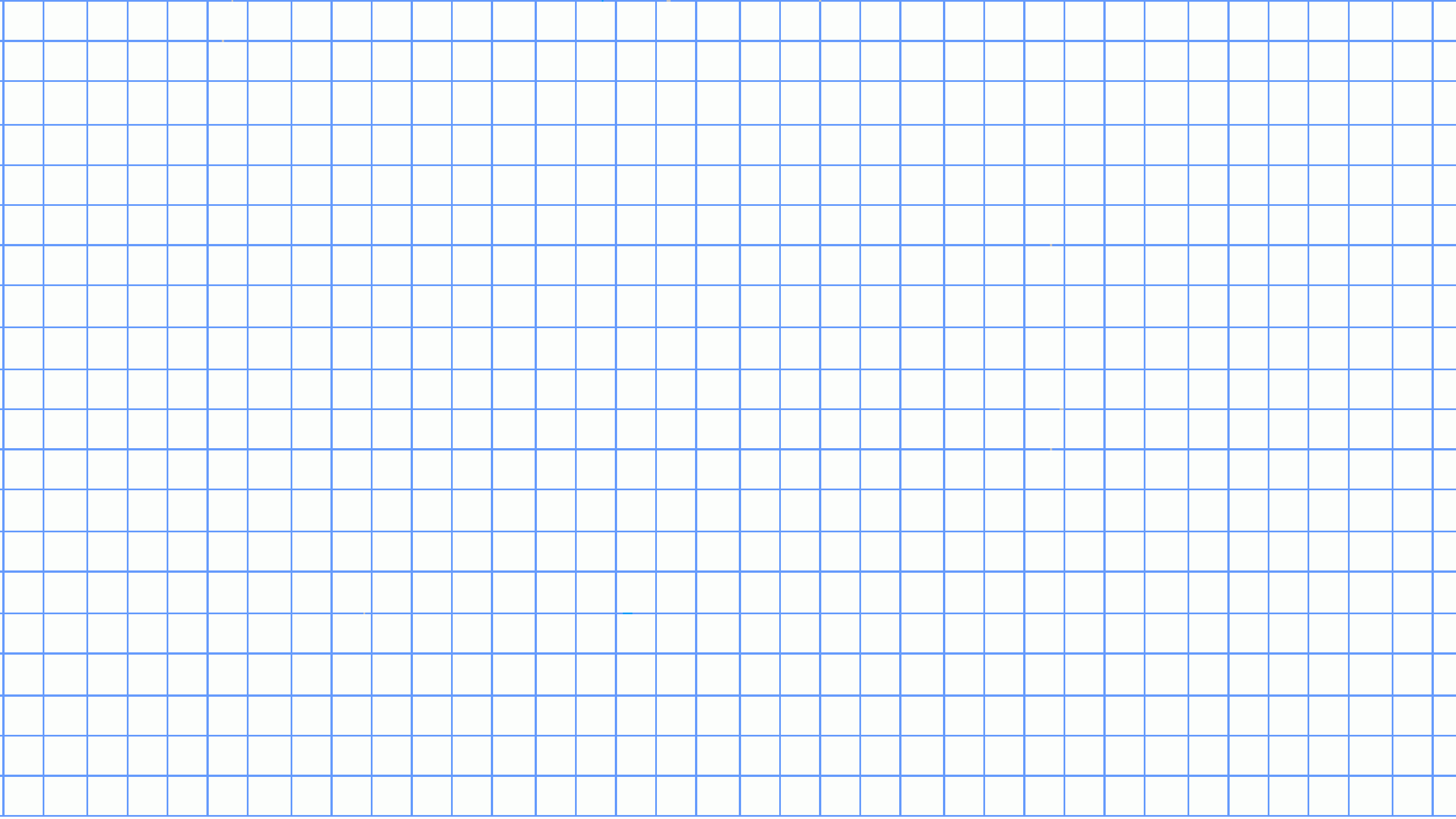
`stroke()`

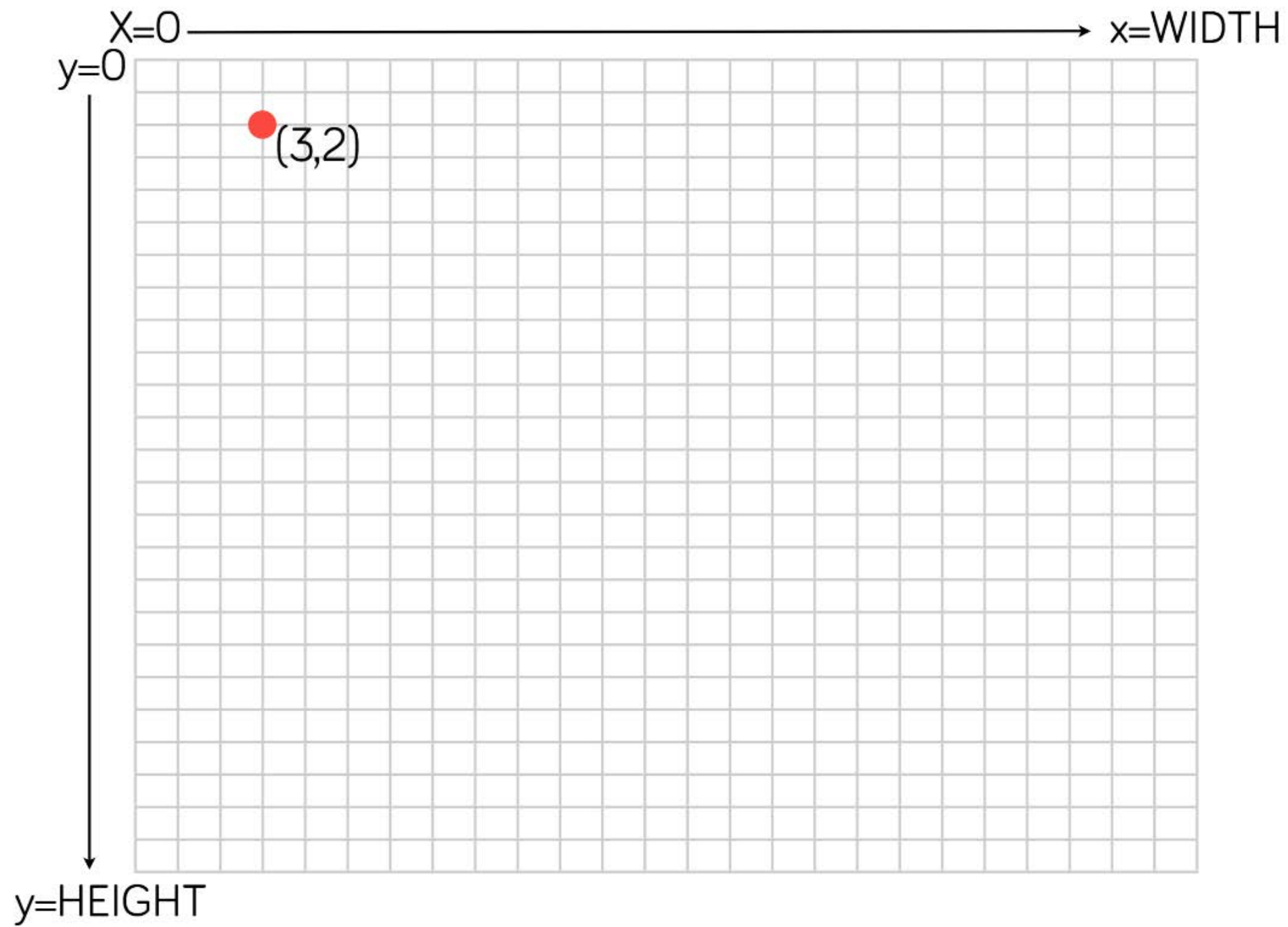
Exercise: try drawing some stuff



How does positioning work?

How does positioning work?







# Coordinate Plane

- **X axis:** horizontal space that gets larger to the right
- **Y axis:** vertical space that gets larger as you go down

# Exercise!

- Trying drawing a circle at x:600, y:800
- If you draw a circle at y:1000 is it higher or lower?

Can I incorporate interactivity?

# Function structure

```
Bake_me_a_cake(chocolate, cherry){  
    add_eggs();  
}
```

- Name of function: Bake\_me\_a\_cake
- Parenthesis: delineates it's a function, holds arguments
- Semicolon: end of line, move to the next thing



# Mouse Positions

- **Variable:** a symbol used to stand in for a value. It can vary and change over time.
- **mouseX:** returns the position of the mouse x position
- **mouseY:** returns the position of the mouse y position

# Exercise!

Draw a circle at mouseX and mouseY

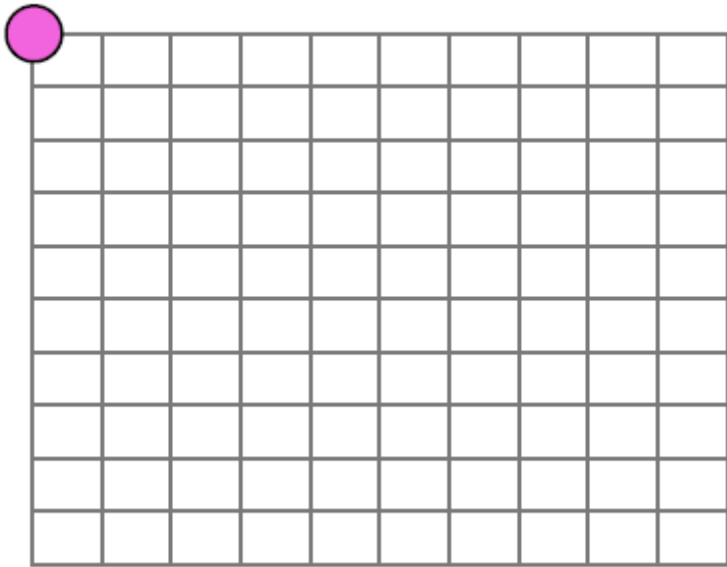
# Variables

- Variables are useful for storing data that may change throughout the course of your app (e.g. your player's health)
- To create a variable, you have to tell the computer:
  1. What kind of data you're storing (a number? a word?)
  2. The name you're going to refer to it by

# Some Variable Types

- **Float:** a decimal number ("I'm 5.4 feet tall.")
- **Integer:** a whole number ("I'm 25 years old.")
- **Boolean:** a true/false condition ("I'm not from California.")
- **String:** text ("My name is Jane.")
- **Char:** a single letter (A)

# Movement

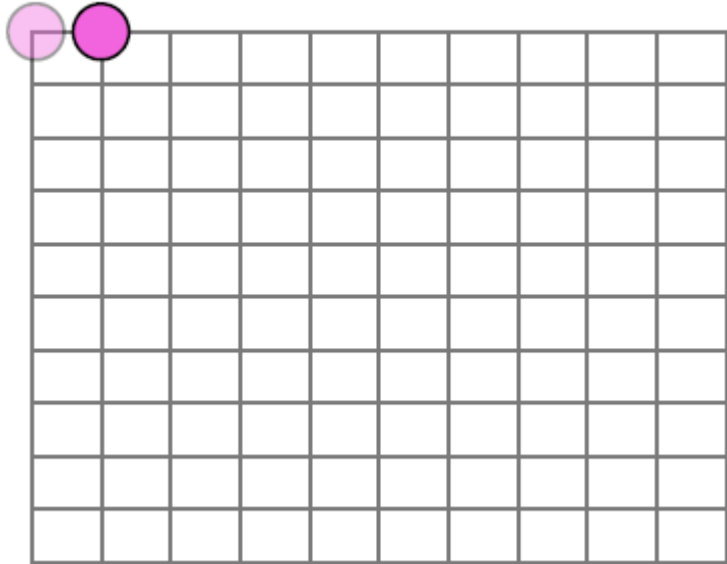


if our object starts at  $x=0$ ,  
at  $\text{time}=0$ , and moves at a  
speed equal to 1 frame/  
sec, what will  $x$  equal at  
 $\text{time}=1$ ?

How do you know?



# Movement



Movement

New position = old position + speed

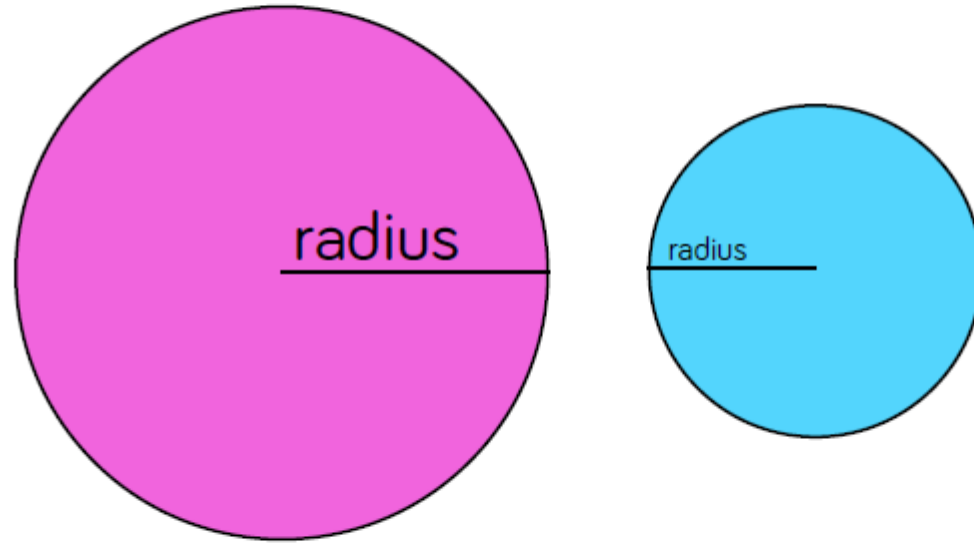
# Exercise!

Try drawing a circle that moves vertically down the screen.  
Hint: you'll want a variable to hold the circle's position.  
(Why?)

**Collision:** when one point is less than a certain distance from another point.

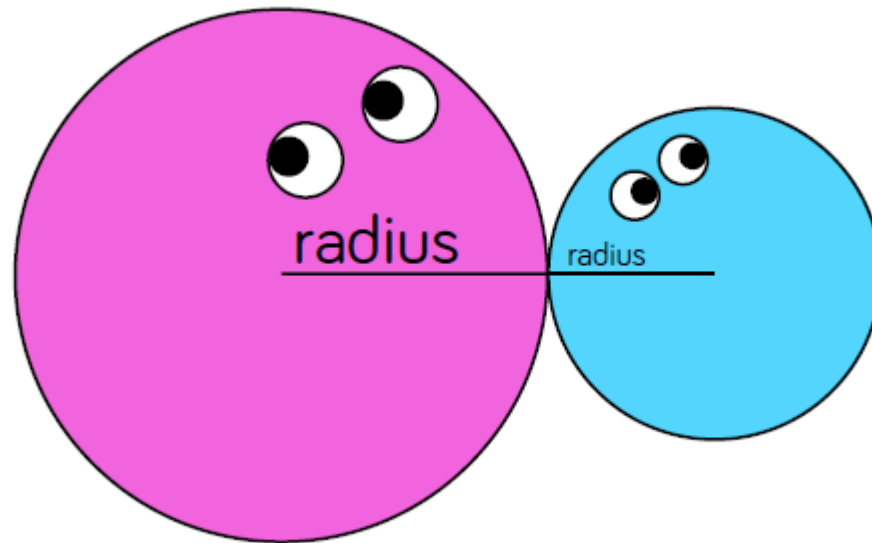


Have these circles collided yet?



## Circle Collision

- If the distance between the center-points of the circles is less than or equal to the sum of their radii, they have collided!
- You can calculate distance in p5 with `dist()` function







Emergency kittens

How can I check if something is true?

# If statements

- Consist of a condition and an action to take.
- Can have alternatives (if-else) and can put if statements inside of if-statements, too!

If I'm hungry, then I'll eat.

```
if (hungry) {  
  eat();  
}
```

# If statements

If I'm hungry, then I'll eat.

```
if (hungry) {  
    eat();  
}
```

If I'm hungry, then I'll eat.

Otherwise, I'll dance!

```
if (hungry) {  
    eat();  
} else {  
    dance();  
}
```

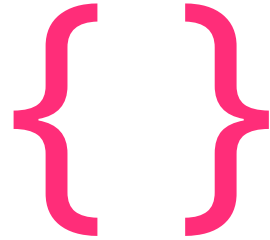
If I'm hungry, then I'll eat.

If I'm hungry and in the mood for pizza, I'll get pizza.

Otherwise, I'll dance!

```
if (hungry) {  
    if (want_pizza) {  
        eat(pizza);  
    } else {  
        eat(something_else);  
    }  
} else {  
    dance();  
}
```

# Scope Operators!



- If you have one, you must have 2. They open and close.
- Variables declared inside a function scope are not visible to other scopes outside of the function.
- You can nest functions inside each other.
- There is more here but we will cover it soon...



# Game States

State machine: *(simple explanation for now)*

- A state you can check to manage the state your game is in at any given point.
- A set of behaviors, UI, animations and events associated with a state
- Levels are simple states
- Examples are the start state of your game, the game playing state and the state your game is when it ends.

You can do this with a string in JavaScript simply.

```
var gameState = "start_game";
```

# Homework

Use the code here as a starting place:

([https://github.com/phoenixperry/IGPED\\_Bootcamp/tree/master/ball\\_drop](https://github.com/phoenixperry/IGPED_Bootcamp/tree/master/ball_drop)) create a

Modify this game so the player's circle gets one point every time they successfully avoid a falling enemy's circle. The game ends when the enemy hits the player's circle. Slowly increase the circle speed and diameter until the player dies. Limit the max speed to a value within reason. The game must have a play button and a replay button.