

Break Out Dev Diary

- Assignment Requirements:
 - Player controlled paddle
 - A bouncing ball
 - Destructible blocks
 - A score keeping mechanism
 - Object-oriented implementation
 - A README.md with a description of the game.
 - A GameDev Diary (this document)
- Optional Features:
 - Splash and Game Over screens
 - Power ups / Negative effects
 - Multiple balls
 - Multiple game modes
 - Additional paddles
 - More advanced physics / collisions
 - Art assets / animation
 - Sound effects / music
- My process:
 - Made a new file for the paddle: paddle.py
 - Made a new file for the Breakout Game: breakout_game.py
 - Spent way too much time trying to get the eventMap and bounce_paddle function working. (like, almost 3 hours for each)
 - Got tired of that so worked on the bricks.
 - Making the bricks go into place was surprisingly easy and gave me a big confidence boost.
 - Got help from someone on slack for displaying the score text on screen.
 - Went to John office hours.
 - Decided to drop Ball vs AABB physics and EventMaps.
 - Decided against making Paddle and Brick sub-classes of Rectangle as the ball collision must do different things for each.
 - Got the brick destruction working.

- Made an automatized way of setting up the bricks so you can just type how many rows and columns you desire. (breakout_game.py lines 51-52)
- I changed my mind about the eventMap and got it working (against John's warning.)
- Finished the score up, and thus the rest of the game, but felt like there was more to be done.
- Made game over screen for when the ball hits the ground.
- Made win screen appear when score = rows X columns.
- Decided the code was good enough.
- Finished the README file and uploaded this into the folder (presumably.)
- New knowledge learned:
 - How to display text on screen in pygame.
 - How to create many varying objects with while and if statements (initializing the bricks.)
 - How to make an eventMap (kinda.)
 - That godforsaken vector math.
 - Importing classes from one file to another (in python.)
- Old knowledge dusted off:
 - General object oriented programming.
 - Excessive commenting.
 - Creating object initialization functions.
- Easiest/Most fun:
 - While statement to make brick objects.
 - (breakout_game.py lines 58-71)
 - Making the win screen and having it appear
 - Making the text of the win/lose screen scale with the window size.
 - (breakout_game.py lines 95-96, 164, and 169)
- Struggles:
 - Implementing Ball Vs AABB collision, and the eventMap (both of which I gave up on by request of John. (and both of which I did anyways because I am clinically insane.))
 - Finishing on time.
 - Dealing with the regret of having not written this in Markdown.