Lesson 24 – Level 1 Wrap up

BDS CONNECT

What we will learn

An often asked question is that Scratch is not a Professional Coding Language, then why are we learning it?

This lesson will answer this question.

Easiest Language to Learn

While Scratch is not a Professional Coding Language, it is perhaps the easiest language to learn.

Let us see how:

- To learn English, we need to learn Grammar, & a lot of it. That certainly is not easy.

- To learn Scratch, we have no grammar to learn, only Logic & logic is natural to our learning process since birth. That certainly sounds easier.

The question now is:

If Scratch is easy to learn, then learning a professional coding language like Python through Scratch, should be equally easy.

If yes, Let us see How?

Taking a New Perspective of Level 1 Learning

The first thing we have learnt is that ‘Scratch is a block oriented, highest level programming language’.

Does this not sound similar to ‘Python is an object oriented, high level programming language’.

When we really start learning Python, wouldn't such similarities which we have learnt the fun way in level 1, make learning Python simple.

Secondly, Playing with blocks for fun, we have inadvertently learnt a huge amount of a Professional Coders Jargon:

- What is a line of code?
- What is a multi line code?
- What is a sequence in a code?
- What is decision making in a code?
- What are conditionals & statements?
- What are operators, variables & lists?
- What are local & global variables?
- What are for, while & infinite loops?

This list is huge & we do have even not realised, that besides learning SCRATCH

we have also started learning the fundamentals of Python.

Haven’t we?

Thirdly, in the very first level of Scratch, we have learnt to:

- Select standard code lines (block statements).
- Make our own code lines (Changeable block statements) as per the need of the code.
- Place them into sequences & other control mechanisms.
- Make daily life projects (Ex OTP Generator or tables etc).
- Understand the role of sensors in coding & robotics.

If so:

- Would not this learning simplify our capability of doing professional python projects later?

- Would not this capability keep increasing in levels 2 & 3?

Conclusion

Our learning of coding fundamentals using Scratch has two major hidden advantages:

- **It simplifies our learning of both, Python & Arduino.**
- **It places children in a better position to analyse & decide for themselves if they want to pursue coding as a career.**

To Wrap Up

- Kindly read the book once again & annotate it as per your understanding & needs.
- Do so in pencil so that you can keep editing it.
- Start teaching to some one younger, or someone who does not know coding but wants to learn. By teaching, your learning of fundamentals will get cemented better.

End of Lesson 24

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