Slide 1:

What is an Algorithm?

Type this into Google and it will tell you it is a process or set of rules to be followed in calculations or other problem-solving operations, especially by a computer.

Slide 2:

Real life Algorithms

An algorithm is really just a set of steps to accomplish something that is correct and efficient. We use algorithms in our daily lives all the time. For example, if you’re hungry and want to make a peanut butter and jelly sandwich there are a series of steps to do this. Get the materials out, spread the jelly, spread the peanut butter, push the pieces together, slice in half and eat it.

Slide 3:

What does that mean for programming?

An algorithm in programming is a set of steps to accomplish a task and Free Code Camp has a ton of great examples of algorithms. Let’s take a look at the Reverse a String algorithm,

One way to solve it is:

Step 1: split the string up on each letter

Step 2: call the reverse array method which will reverse the values in the array

Step 3: join the array values back together into a string

This is a simple algorithm for how to reverse a string.

At the end of the day an algorithm is nothing more than a set of steps to accomplish a goal and then end.