## Got 15 minutes? Give Ruby a shot right now!

### Objective:

Ruby is a programming language from Japan (available at [ruby-lang.org](http://ruby-lang.org)) which is revolutionizing the web. The beauty of Ruby is found in its balance between simplicity and power.

Try out Ruby code in the prompt on the right. In addition to Ruby's built-in methods, the following commands are available:

* help → Starts the 15 minute interactive tutorial. Trust me, it's very basic!
* clear → Clears the screen. Useful if your browser starts slowing down. Your command history will be remembered.
* next → Allows you to skip to the next section of a lesson.
* back → Allows you to return to the previous section of a lesson.

If you want to save your progress, head on over to [Code School](https://www.codeschool.com/) and sign up for free. We'll wait for you here.

<http://tryruby.org/levels/1/challenges/1>

## Using the Prompt

### Objective:

The window to the right is a Ruby prompt.

Here you'll be able to type a line of Ruby code, hit Enter, and watch it run!

For your first bit of Ruby, try typing some math, like: 2 + 6

**Using the Prompt**

**Objective:**

Great! You did a little bit of math.

See how the answer was returned? Ruby uses a fat arrow for responses to your entries.

Ruby recognizes numbers and mathematics operators. You could also try some other math like:

* 4 \* 10
* 5 - 12
* 40 / 4

Even though we've placed a space between the numbers and the operators above, it's not required. For now, stick with these basic operations; we'll try a few others later.

When you're finished experimenting, type next to move to the next lesson when you're finished.

Interactive ruby ready.

> back

> next

> 2 + 6

=> 8

Success!

> 4 \* 10

=> 40

> 5 - 12

=> -7

> 40 / 4

=> 10

> back

> next

> next

## Say Your Name

### Objective:

Welp, we already know that computers are handy and fast for math.

But what about something *really* useful. Like, say, seeing the letters of your name reversed!

To do that super-cool task, let's first get you familiar with text in Ruby. Type your first name in quotes, like this: "Jimmy"

> "Rajani"

=> "Rajani"

Success!

> "Rajani".r­everse

=> "inajaR"

Success!

> "Rajani".l­ength

=> 6

Success!

## On Repeat

### Objective:

Now, maybe you're wondering what any of this is actually good for. Have you ever encountered a website that yelled at you for choosing a password that was too short? Turns out, the length property is often what that site uses to check for a correct length.

Let's get crazy now, and multiply your name by 5. Follow the following format: "Jimmy" \* 5

> "Jimmy" \* 5

=> "JimmyJimmyJimmyJimmyJimmy"

Success!