





4 Functions





Dog Trainer

Dash is acting like a puppy and you are the trainer.

Train Dash to turn in a circle!



1. Create a **function** to teach Dash to drive in a **circle**. Give the function a name (such as **FCircle**).



2. Put a **Set Wheel Speed** block, a **sound** block, and a **Stop Wheels** block **inside** the **function**.



3. Under the When Start block, Call the Circle Function.



- 4. Add some **lights** and **sounds** to give Dash praise for doing a good job!
- 5. Then **Call** the **Circle Function** again so that Dash gets more practice.



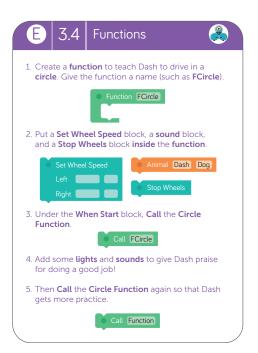
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Dog Trainer

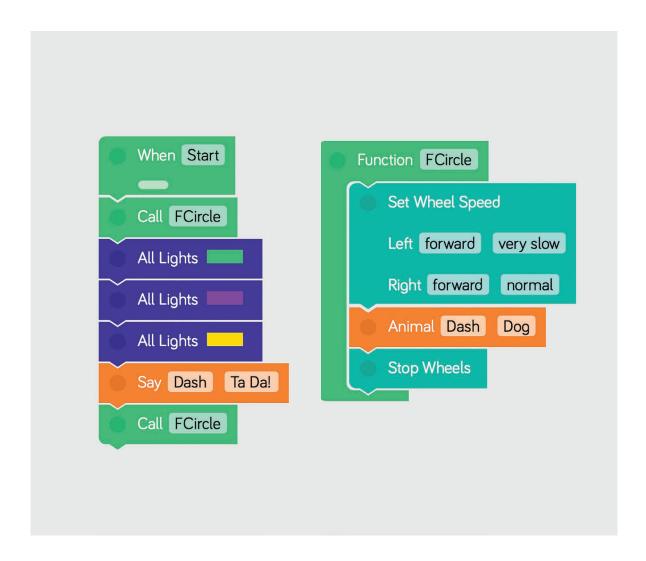
Time: 10-15 minutes

Hints

- To name a function, tap on the name, erase the word "Function," and add your own title. The "F" in Function does not delete, so all your function names will begin with an "F."
- Set each wheel at a different speed in order to get Dash to spin in a circle.
- To choose which function to call, tap on the Call block and select the function you want to use from the menu.



Suggested Solution:



Discussion Questions

- 1. A **function** is a coding shortcut. Instead of writing the entire code sequence each time you want to use it, you can create a function. Whenever you're ready to use the coding sequence, just use the **Call** block. When is it helpful to use a function instead of a **Repeat** or **When** block?
- 2. What other tricks would you like Dash to perform? What kind of **functions** would you need to make for each trick? What blocks would you use?

Cross-Curricular Connections



- Have students add functions that make Dash turn 5 full circles. Then have students try making Dash turn 10 full circles. (CCSS.MATH.4.MD.C.5.A)
- Make Dash's trick more complicated by using the **Set Wheel Speed** and **Stop Wheel** blocks and having Dash turn a specific number of degrees. (CCSS.MATH.4.MD.C.5.A)



Have students research techniques used to train two different animals. Have them write a
composition comparing and contrasting the techniques. Then have them write a function
to demonstrate Dash completing a trick after successful training techniques had been used.
Finally, have students write a different function showing how Dash would complete a trick if
the training techniques used were unsuccessful. (CCSS.ELA.W.4.2)

NOTES:



Tricks Galore!

As a trainer, you are responsible for teaching a variety of tricks. Teach Dash two different tricks.

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1. Dash needs to learn more tricks! Create 2 new functions.



2. Use **sound** blocks to make a function that teaches Dash to **speak**.



3. Use **sound**, **light**, and **drive** blocks to make a function that teaches Dash to **protect** you with loud noises, flashing lights, and brave moves.



4. To train Dash to do the tricks, **call** each **function** at least **3 times**. Practice makes perfect!

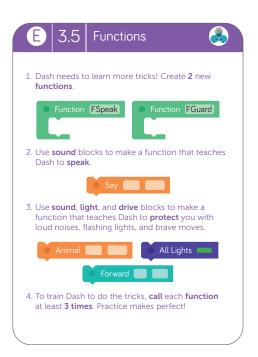
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Tricks Galore

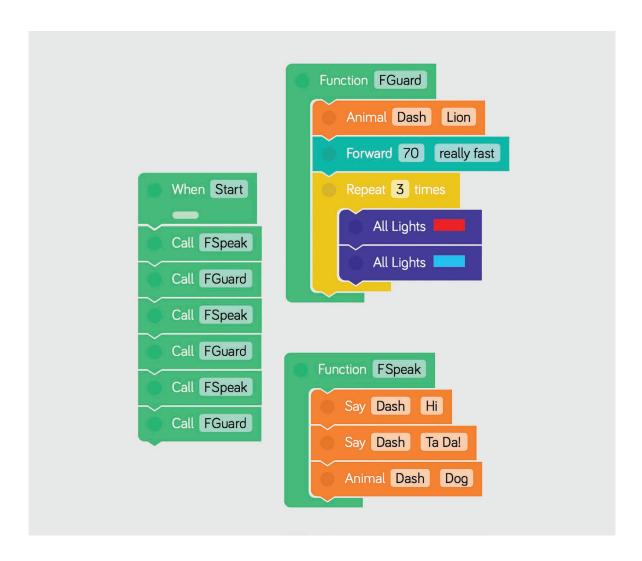
Time: 20-25 minutes

Hints

- Sometimes Dash likes to be funny and do the unexpected. When you program the Speak Function, have Dash speak words in addition to barking.
- To make Dash's lights flash, add a Repeat block inside the Function block.



Suggested Solution:



Discussion Questions

- 1. What would this program look like if you did not use functions?
- 2. How could you teach Dash a third or fourth trick? Would this be difficult or easy to do?

Cross-Curricular Connections



• Have students calculate the number of centimeters Dash travels during this challenge. Then have them change the number of centimeters Dash drives in the Function Guard block and solve the equation again. (CCSS.MATH.4.NBT.A.1)



Have students record sentences using sound blocks and include them in a function to train
Dash about the differences between to, too, and two. (E.g., He went to the pet store. I went
there too. We got two treats for Dash.) Have them write another function to help Dash learn
about the differences between there, their, and they're. (CCSS.ELA.L.4.1.G)

NOTES:



Obstacle Course!

Many animal trainers challenge their pets by having them go through obstacle courses. Now it's Dash's turn!

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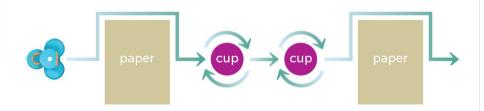


.6 | Functions



Materials: 2 sheets of paper, 2 cups, tape, ruler

Use cups and paper to set up 4 obstacles.
 Place the obstacles 30 cm apart and set
 Dash in front of them. Use tape to mark each
 obstacle's location and Dash's starting spot.



2. Program Dash to go through the obstacle course using **2 functions**—one for each obstacle type.

Hint: You will need to **call** each function **multiple times**.



Add more obstacles to the course or change the order of the obstacles.

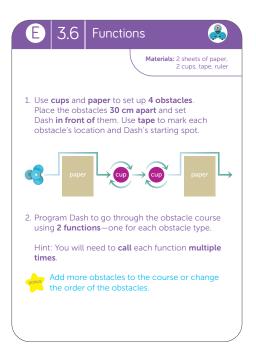
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Obstacle Course!

Time: 50-60 minutes

Hints

- Have Dash move slowly and in small increments to get around each circle.
- You might need to add Drive and Turn blocks between functions to get Dash to the proper starting point for each obstacle.
- Since the functions are already written, it's easy to add more of the same obstacles to your course in any order you choose.



Suggested Solution:

