# Introduction to Programming

The **Editor** is a software program we use to write Code. Our Editor allows us to experiment with Code on the right-hand side, in the **Interactions Area**. For Code that we want to *keep*, we can put it on the left-hand side in the **Definitions Area**. Clicking the "Run" button causes the computer to re-read everything in the Definitions Area and erase anything that was typed into the Interactions Area.

## Data Types

Programming languages involve different ***data types***, such as Numbers, Strings, Booleans, and even Images.

- Numbers are values like `1`, `0.4`, `1/3`, and `-8261.003`.
  - Numbers are *usually* used for quantitative data and other values are *usually* used as categorical data.
  - In Pyret, any decimal *must* start with a 0. For example, `0.22` is valid, but `.22` is not.
- Strings are values like `"Emma"`, `"Rosanna"`, `"Jen and Ed"`, or even `"08/28/1980"`.
  - All strings *must* be surrounded in quotation marks.
- Booleans are either `true` or `false`.

All values evaluate to themselves. The program `42` will evaluate to `42`, the String `"Hello"` will evaluate to `"Hello"`, and the Boolean `false` will evaluate to `false`.

## Operators

Operators (like `+`, `-`, `*`, `<`, etc.) work the same way in Pyret that they do in math.

- Operators are written between values, for example: `4 + 2`.
- In Pyret, operators must always have a space around them. `4 + 2` is valid, but `4+2` is not.
- If an expression has different operators, parentheses must be used to show order of operations. `4 + 2 + 6` and `4 + (2 * 6)` are valid, but `4 + 2 * 6` is not.

## Applying Functions

Applying functions works much the way it does in math. Every function has a name, takes some inputs, and produces some output. The function name is written first, followed by a list of ***arguments*** in parentheses.

- In math this could look like $f(5)$ or $g(10, 4)$.
- In Pyret, these examples would be written as `f(5)` and `g(10, 4)`.
- Applying a function to make images would look like `star(50, "solid", "red")`.
- There are many other functions, for example `num-sqr`, `num-sqrt`, `triangle`, `square`, `string-repeat`, etc.

Functions have ***contracts***, which help explain how a function should be used. Every contract has three parts:

- The *Name* of the function - literally, what it's called.
- The *Domain* of the function - what *types of values* the function consumes, and in what order.
- The *Range* of the function - what *type of value* the function produces.