Hour of Code Participation Guide

Anybody can learn
December 9-15, 2019

HOUR OF CODE

The Hour of Code is a global movement introducing tens of millions of students worldwide to computer science, inspiring kids to learn more, breaking stereotypes, and leaving them feeling empowered. Help students try their first hour of computer science with these steps.

The Hour of Code is easy to run - even for beginners. Get started today!

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1 Choose your Hour of Code activity

There are fun activities for students of all ages, created by many partners for a variety of subjects. Want to do an Hour of Code in your English or history class? We've got options for that!

Different options to learn by
Self-guided—requiring minimal teacher prep.
Teacher-led—lesson plans for any teacher.

Code.org's own activities feature Minecraft, Star Wars, Frozen, Angry Birds, and Plants vs. Zombies.

2 Sign up your classroom and recruit your school

Teachers	Principals	Superintendents	Parents
Host an Hour of Code event for all your students throughout the week. Urge other teachers to do the same.	Plan for your entire student body to do the Hour of Code. You don't even need a computer for every student.	Challenge every school in your district to sign up.	Pass this guide on to your local school. Volunteer to help.

3 Plan your technology needs - computers are optional

Hour of Code is best experienced with internet-connected computers that can access web-based activities. No downloads or sign-ins are required. And you don't need a computer for every student!

In the computer lab?
Bring your class to the computer lab so students can do the Hour of Code together.

In the classroom?
Students can take turns doing an Hour of Code on internet-connected computers or tablets throughout the week.

Work in pairs
Encourage students to double up and share a computer. Or all students can do an Hour of Code together on a shared projector.

Encourage parents to bring hardware
If your school has wifi, ask parents to bring in tablets or laptops for the class to share.

Use mobile devices
If your school doesn't have enough computers, many activities will also work on smartphones and tablets.

Go unplugged!
We offer "unplugged" activities that teach basic principles of computer science—no electronic devices required.

4 Spread the word to students and parents

Share promotional materials
Inspire students with videos and posters. Find everything you need at hourofcode.com/promote.

Encourage parents to participate, too!
Students with engaged parents are more likely to pursue computer science. See a sample email to parents at hourofcode.com/promote/resources.

Host an Hour of Code parents' night
To fully engage parents, consider inviting them to an open house where they can do an Hour of Code with their kids and teachers from your school.

Reward participants
Go big and create prizes and awards for teachers and students.

5 Celebrate your Hour of Code

Host a school-wide assembly
Show a Code.org video or invite a speaker to do an "unplugged" activity with students in front of the entire school.

Contact press and local officials
Tell them about your school's participation in the international Hour of Code movement.

Invite the community
Families, volunteers, and business leaders can all learn too. Use the Hour of Code to recruit students for high school computer science courses.

Celebrate!
Share your experience and photos on social media with #HourOfCode.

6 Keep learning - go beyond the Hour of Code!

Continue learning in class or online
Keep going with Code.org's online learning platform, where you can track student progress as they learn at their own pace, or find the best learning resources for your classroom at code.org/educate.

Expand computer science at your school or district
Visit code.org/yourschool to learn how to bring a full K-12 computer science pathway and professional development to your school or district. Encourage elementary school teachers to find free, one-day local workshops, at code.org/k5.

Help remove policy obstacles to computer science
Code.org and its partners are working to change policies at the federal, state, and local level to increase access to computer science for all students. Learn about what's happening in your area and how you can help at advocacy.code.org.

"I challenge girls in every single country to learn one Hour of Code."

Malala Yousafzai
Nobel Peace Prize Winner

Mark your calendars for December 9-15, 2019!

Start at hourofcode.com

Hour of Code
Frequently Asked Questions

Still have questions?
We have answers.

HOUR
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CODE

Will the Hour of Code take a full hour?
Many students will be able to finish their activities in less than an hour, and that's okay! Students can continue to learn while other students complete their activity.

Do all students have to do the same activity?
Students can work on activities based on their level of experience or interests - not every student has to do the same activity at the same time.

Can I do an Hour of Code not during Computer Science Education Week?
You can start an Hour of Code whenever you want. You don't even have to do it in December! The Hour of Code is a great learning experience any time of year. And you don't have to register your event, all you have to do is get started.

Why computer science?
Every student should have the opportunity to learn computer science. It helps nurture problem-solving skills, logic, and creativity. By starting early, students will have a foundation for success in any 21st-century career path. See more stats here.

I don't know anything about coding. Can I still host an event?
Of course. Hour of Code activities are self-guided. All you have to do is try our current tutorials, pick the tutorial you want, and pick an hour — we take care of the rest. We also have options for every age and experience level, from kindergarten and up. Start planning your event by reading our how-to guide.

What devices should I use for my students?
Code.org activities work on all devices and browsers. Tech needs for non-Code.org activities can be found on code.org/learn in the specific activity's description. Don't forget we also offer unplugged activities if your school can't accommodate the tech needs!

Do students need to log on using an account?
No. Absolutely no signup or login is required for students to try the Hour of Code. Most of the follow-on courses require account creation to save student progress. Signing up for the Hour of Code does NOT automatically create a Code.org account.

How much can one learn in an hour?
The goal of the Hour of Code is not to teach anybody to become an expert computer scientist in one hour. One hour is only enough to learn that computer science is fun and creative, that it is accessible at all ages, for all students, regardless of background. Millions of the participating teachers and students have decided to go beyond one hour - to learn for a whole day or a whole week or longer, and many students have decided to enroll in an entire course (or even a college major) as a result.

Above all, what all participants can learn in an hour is that we can do this.