

Reading Python Code

At this point in our course you have read a lot of simple scratch code. Believe it or not, you probably have learned enough to actually read and understand some simple python code. You should have already downloaded a short python program. Look at that code and answer the following questions to the best of your ability.

- 1) What do you predict this program will do?
- 2) One of the concepts we talked about was "algorithm – a list of steps that you can follow to finish a task." How do you see that used in this program?
- 3) One of the concepts we talked about was "loops (iteration) – the action of doing something over and over again." How do you see that used in this program?
- 4) One of the concepts we talked about was "conditionals (selection statements) – Statements that only run under certain conditions." How do you see that used in this program?

5) One of the concepts we talked about was “data and variables – storing, retrieving, and updating data.” How do you see that used in this program?

6) One of the concepts we talked about was “functions – A piece of code that you can call over and over again.” How do you see that used in this program?

Recall that when you were working with Scratch the blocks consisted of text that could not be changed and “holes” where you could place information that could be changed. To a similar extent, this is true with Python as well. There are words/phrases/symbols that cannot be changed and other words/phrases/symbols that can be changed without changing how the program actually works.

7) Identify at least two words/phrases/symbols that you THINK cannot be changed in this program without breaking the program or changing the way that it runs.

8) Identify at least two words/phrases/symbols that you THINK can be changed in this program without breaking the program or changing the way that it runs.

9) While you probably can understand what this program does, you probably have lots of questions so far. Identify at least two things you would like clarified.