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SDI Section 01

Scratch Project and Commentary

My name is Eric Wilson, and I made this from the Scratch.com website <https://scratch.mit.edu/projects/58906024/> for all to enjoy.

My first experience was rudimentary, meaning I was just pointing and clicking my way around. It was very cut and paste. Then it dawned on me that I was using another ‘interpretive’ software program with pre-built in conditions as well as the ability to add conditionals, relational and put some of my own “If, else” commands into the script.

The script was the hardest thing to find in the beginning, yet after some trials of adding characters it became obvious that the scripts were attached to the “Sprite’s”! Just click on the sprite, and up come your conditionals, etc. Let the programming begin!!! I read on, watched some more tutorials but felt like there could be so much more we could do as the commands were all there. It was then that I started looking at the ‘remix’ examples. This gave me a huge lift, and showed me code we would also write (a bit more cumbersome) in JavaScript. There was no stopping after that.

I kept some of one example, deleted some things like their music and added my own as well as adding a character who was puzzled (You’ll see in the link above) as to what was going on around him. I also added some questions for the user, not necessary for the program to work, which were also added to the upper right hand corner of the work.

I feel like JavaScript will be much better in the long run for many reasons, the most important being one can develop what ever they choose from the very start. With a program like “Scrath.com” you are somewhat limited in the fashion of presentation. You have to want to make a video, and want to have it do certain things when using Scratch.com. With JavaScript you are free to go anywhere and build anything from apps to programming and so on.

Like I mentioned before, the ‘problems’ were more like limitations, as mentioned in the paragraph before. You really have to want to make a video. If that’s what you want to do, then by all means this is a great way to start. They use similar conditionals that we use in JavaScript and have a whole library from which to use for your video. With JavaScript, it would take me a lot longer to program such a thing; so why not keep it easy and use Scratch.com? So, they both have their limits.

A new thing I picked up on this is another network of friends. Now I have even more people to ask questions by them and see what they think. You can never have enough help when programming, and my new membership and group of programmers makes this journey all the more rewarding.

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