**Underground Game Specification**

This document specifies the game for the Scirra Underground Jam August/September 2015.

Summary

The purpose of the game is to efficiently mine an area through a serious of semi-autonomous robots. More robots can be purchased using the money raised.

The game is rather like Lemmings in some respects ; objects are sent to a specific position and then they do their thing.

Unlike Lemmings, when they are finished (various definitions !) they return to a queue of objects to be “dispatched”.

Dispatching is done by clicking on the target square then clicking on the object in the queue front window.

There is a smaller button that can be clicked instead of a target square, clicking this pushes the current object at the front to the back of the object queue.

The target square must be (i) visible and (ii) open (e.g. an open area with or without coal, a rail area, or a shaft.

The initial movement direction is given by whether the start position is to the right or left of the shaft centreline. **NOTE:** it can’t go both ways otherwise the search algorithm won’t work.

Moving the window is done via clicking and dragging ; however touching the top line automatically “homes the cursor” so the initial shaft is top and centre.

Game space

The game takes place on a grid of indeterminate size each of which is 48 x 48 pixels (thus fits 13 x 20 squares in a 640 x 960 display). Each square represents an area of the ground. The top line of the grid is grass covered and cannot be mined.

Initially a shaft of depth 10 is predug at the horizontal mid point of the area (from the top), and the area around this is opened up 3x3 for visibility.

Coal occurs in clumps, Silver and Gold occur in horizontal groups. Diamond occurs singly.

Mapped on top of this is a ‘visibilty’ tilemap which allows unvisited parts of the mine to be hidden from view, which uses tiles 33 – 38.

The following things can be part of the grid:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Code | Description | Description |
| 0 | C:\Construct2\Underground\Graphics\earth.png | Earth, with no coal in it. |
| 1-15 | C:\Users\Paul\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Word\coal7.png | Earth with increasing amounts of coal. |
| 16 | C:\Construct2\Underground\Graphics\empty.png | Empty space (horizontal tunnel or cavern) |
| 17-25 | C:\Construct2\Underground\Graphics\empty6.png | Empty space with mined coal, increasing. |
| 26 | C:\Construct2\Underground\Graphics\shaft.png | Vertically dug shaft (Chain) |
| 27 | C:\Construct2\Underground\Graphics\grass.png | Represents the top of the screen |
| 28 | C:\Construct2\Underground\Graphics\rock.png | Rock that cannot be dug through |
| 29 | C:\Construct2\Underground\Graphics\silver.png | Earth containing silver ore |
| 30 | C:\Construct2\Underground\Graphics\gold.png | Earth containing gold ore |
| 31 | C:\Construct2\Underground\Graphics\diamond.png | Earth containing diamonds |
| 32 | C:\Construct2\Underground\Graphics\rail.png | Open space with railway track |
| 33 | C:\Construct2\Underground\Graphics\block0.png | Open |
| 34 | C:\Construct2\Underground\Graphics\block1.png | Part open |
| 35 | C:\Construct2\Underground\Graphics\block2.png | Part open |
| 36 | C:\Construct2\Underground\Graphics\block3.png | Part open |
| 37 | C:\Construct2\Underground\Graphics\block4.png | Part open |
| 38 | C:\Construct2\Underground\Graphics\block5.png | Closed |
| 39 | C:\Construct2\Underground\Graphics\granite.png | Granite. Impenetrable (edge of game) |
| 40 | C:\Construct2\Underground\Graphics\target.png | Target (placed temporarily) |

Autonomous Vehicles

This is a summary of the AVs in the game

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Image | Notes |
| Explorer | C:\Users\Paul\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Word\explorer.png | Travels horizontally, reasonably quickly, cannot penetrate anything other than standard earth. Opens 5x5 visual grid rather than 3x3. |
| Miner | C:\Construct2\Underground\Graphics\digger.png | Mines coal, diamonds, gold and silver from adjacent block. When finished moves on to the next block. Cannot penetrate rock. Stores Precious metals and stones but leaves coal on the floor. |
| Driller | C:\Construct2\Underground\Graphics\driller.png | Drills vertically down from the place given. Drills a maximum depth of six squares. Single use only, though can be returned *before* drilling has started. Cannot penetrate rock vertically. Anything penetrated is lost and replaced by the chain. |
| Collector | C:\Construct2\Underground\Graphics\collect0.png | Picks up any coal that is lying about on the ground. Cannot penetrate anything. Automatically returns when the cart is full. The amount of coal carried can be seen visually. |
| Layer | C:\Construct2\Underground\Graphics\layer.png | Lays railway tracks horizontally till it reaches a shaft or wall, cannot penetrate anything. Speed is quadrupled on rails, without rails there is a 75% speed penalty when two carts overlap. |
| Exploder | C:\Construct2\Underground\Graphics\exploder.png | Single use, like driller, can be returned before triggered. Two types of explosion, when in a vertical shaft drills down three squares, replacing whatever is there with chains ; otherwise it extracts coal in a chamber pattern, dropping it on the ground, upwards only. Rails and Chains are unaffected whatever. |

TODO List

1. Create levels using a function with global constants for size, create a test page which displays it
2. Write a further function which converts that test page into a part-done game.
3. Write the ‘search back to the start’ root code and test it.
4. Create the initial tilemaps and add opening code and test it.
5. Movement via dragging / return to home.W
6. Design the wagon object.