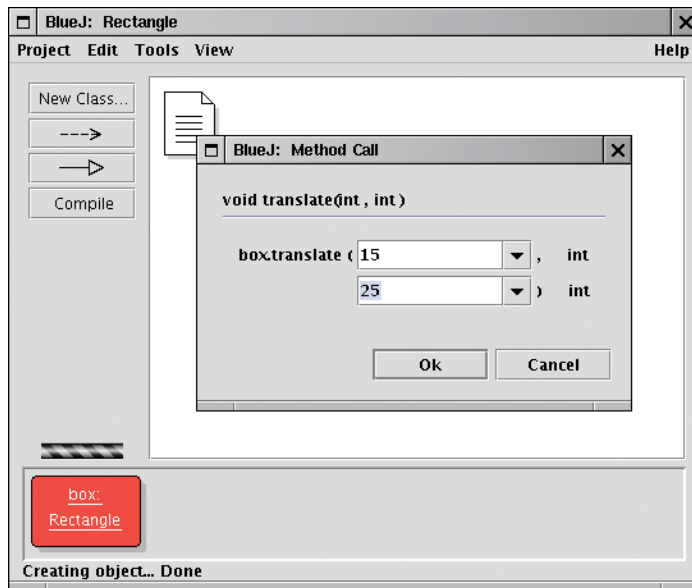




Special Topic 2.1

Testing Classes in an Interactive Environment

Some development environments are specifically designed to help students explore objects without having to provide tester classes. These environments can be very helpful for gaining insight into the behavior of objects, and for promoting object-oriented thinking. The BlueJ environment (shown in the figure) displays objects as blobs on a workbench. You can



Testing a Method Call in BlueJ

construct new objects, put them on the workbench, invoke methods, and see the return values, all without writing a line of code. You can download BlueJ at no charge from www.bluej.org. Another excellent environment for interactively exploring objects is Dr. Java at drjava.sourceforge.net.
