

## **Welcome to Kickstart**

Welcome to Computer Science and the programming kickstart course! The exercises below will quickly get you up and running with programming P5 JavaScript. We have intentionally left some things unexplained as we want you to experiment on your own.

#### Resources

There is a world of information and resources to help you learn p5.js. Check out the following:

**Book** McCarthy, Lauren, Casey Reas, and Ben Fry. Getting started with P5. JS: Making interactive graphics in JavaScript and Processing. Maker Media, Inc., 2015

p5.js Web site The official website

Happy Coding A fun set of tutorials and examples for p5.js: Happy Coding

Kickstart Absalon You can find the book and other materials on the LMS.

#### **Have Fun**





# First Program

Type the following example in the Processing editor and press D-button:

```
function setup() {
    //set the canvas and background color
    createCanvas(400, 400);
    background(220);

    // Tree
    rect(55, 50, 10, 20);
    ellipse(60, 35, 30, 40);
}

function draw() {}
```

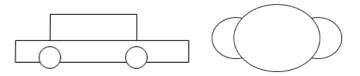
Then add the following into the setup() function:

```
// powerplant
rect(120, 50, 60, 30);
rect(160, 20, 10, 30);
triangle(120, 50, 136, 40, 136, 50);
triangle(136, 50, 152, 40, 152, 50);
```

And:

```
// windmill
line(300, 50, 320, 51);
line(300, 50, 289, 67);
line(300, 50, 291, 32);
line(300, 50, 300, 90);
```

Now try drawing a car and a cloud (psst, use the documentation):



#### **Documentation**

Documentation is a manual describing how a specific part of a programming language works. This is an easy way to learn what all the numbers refer to in triangle(120, 50, 136, 40, 136, 50).

Use the **documentation** on p5.js. For instance, search for *triangle* and press the reference triangle(). Then you can read what each of the parameters (the numbers in paremthesis) given to triangle() do.



## **Colors**

You are now going to colour the shapes. To do this, use the fill(r, g, b) function, which selects which colour to use for fill and text colour. It's all about calling fill in the right places! As arguments, you specify the amount of red (0-255), blue (0-255), and green (0-255). Here are some basic colors to experiment with:

```
      fill(255, 0, 0);
      // red
      fill(0, 0, 0);
      // black

      fill(0, 255, 0);
      // green
      fill(255, 255, 255);
      // white

      fill(0, 0, 255);
      // blue
      fill(255, 255, 0);
      // yellow
```

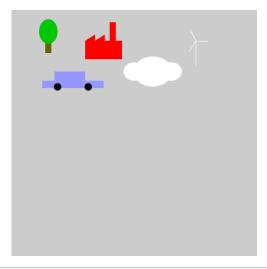
Optionally, find colours using an online color picker or RGB colour table. For example, search for "RGB color picker".

# Lines and outlines

To specify the colour of strokes (e.g. line) and outlines, use stroke(r, g, b). Also try the noStroke() function, to turn off outline drawing.

## Example

Here's an example of what it might look like after colouring:

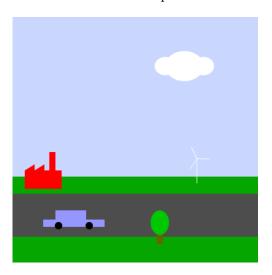




# **Green City**

Use what you've learned to make it a slightly nicer scene, with background, foreground and the extra details you think should be there. For example, I've drawn a road and moved the objects around.

**Tip:** To change the background color from gray you can use rect which you already know, but you can also use the background(r, g, b) command. It will delete everything and fill the screen with the specified colour.



### **Comments**

A comment is any line starting with //. The line won't be interpreted as code by the program. A comment can be used to "remove" a piece of code temporarily for debugging or for helping yourself understand the code with an easy to understand label, for example:

```
// the next line is a comment, but the last line is code
// fill(255, 0, 0);
fill(255, 0, 0);
```



# Making an Aquarium

Create a new project ("File" -> "New") and immediately save it the project. Call it "Aquarium".

Type in this piece of code:

```
function setup() {
  createCanvas(400, 400);
  background(220);

//basic fish shape
  fishX = 150;
  ellipse(fishX, 200, 120, 75);
  triangle(fishX - 60, 200, fishX - 90, 170, fishX - 90, 230);
}

function draw() {
}
```

Try changing 150 to a different number in the fishX specification. Now add the following:

```
eyeSize = 15;
ellipse(fishX + 30, 190, eyeSize, eyeSize);
```

Try changing the value of eyeSize.

#### **Variables**

A variable is a piece of data linked to a name. This could be a number, a piece of text, or one of the many other data types.

It is defined with the following syntax:

```
x = 1;
y = 2;
z = x + y;
```



## **Tasks**

You have now added a fish that can be moved just by changing one value.

- Color the fish
- Give the fish a fin that moves when you change fishX.
- Give the fish a pupil that moves when you change fishX.
- Create a new variable, fishY, that controls the y-position of the fish



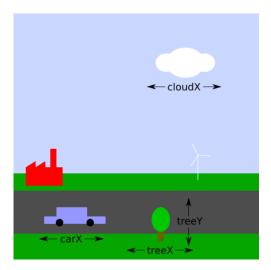
Remember to save the project. We'll be working on it later.



# **Green City continues**

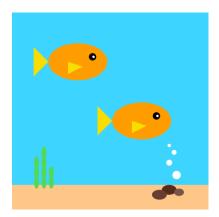
Switch to the electric car project and introduce variables to specify the location of the objects so that we can later animate these objects.

- Create a variable carX so the car can move forward and back
- Create a variable cloudX so the cloud can move back and forth
- Create a variable treeX so the tree can be moved horizontally
- Create a variable treeY so the tree can be moved vertically



# **Aquarium Continues**

Use what you've learned to expand your aquarium project; here's an example, but feel free to use your imagination! For example, one variable is used for the x-coordinate of the seaweed plant and another variable for the x-coordinate of the entire group of rocks (as a unit). An additional set of variables fish2X/fish2Y to control the location of the additional fish.





## **Functions**

Functions allow you to reuse the same code in multiple places, name entire blocks, and add structure to code.

Open the Aquarium project. Add the following function to draw a fish:

```
function setup() {
 // Set up the canvas
 createCanvas(400, 400);
 // Set the background color to light grey
 background(220);
function draw() {
 // Draw the first fish at x-coordinate 100
 drawFish(100);
 // Draw the second fish at x-coordinate 280
 drawFish(280);
function drawFish(fishX) {
 // Draw the basic fish shape
 // Draw fish body (fishX, 200) with a width of 120 and height of
 ellipse(fishX, 200, 120, 75);
 // Draw the fish tail using a triangle
 // The triangle points are at (fishX - 60, 200), (fishX - 90,
     170),
 //and (fishX - 90, 230)
 triangle(fishX - 60, 200, fishX - 90, 170, fishX - 90, 230);
 // Draw the fish eye
 // The eye is a small ellipse located at (fishX + 30, 190)
 //with a size of 15x15
 eyeSize = 15;
 ellipse(fishX + 30, 190, eyeSize, eyeSize);
```

Now it's much faster to fill the aquarium with fish and we avoid copying code.



#### **Functions**

A function in programming is like a function in math. It takes one or more arguments in like x, which could be a number (Int) type. It then utilizes the input to do or compute something, which can be returned as a result.

An example of a function that returns an output is plus2. plus2 takes a number and returns the number plus 2:

```
function plus2(a){
   return a + 2
}
```

In the example above, a is an input/parameter to the function that needs to be a number when calling the function. The function returns a number that can be used or bound elsewhere in the code.

A function <u>does not</u> need to return anything in p5.js. An example of this is the drawFish function above, which draws the fish without any returns.

#### Task

Create your own drawFish(x, y) function that draws your entire fish with colour, fins and eyes.

#### **Notes and Extra**

- Try changing 50 to another number
- Try changing the line x = x + 1 to x = x 1 or to x = x + 5
- Try moving the call to background from draw to setup what happens?

## **BE AWARE**

When using setup/draw, call draw functions outside of setup and draw are not allowed. Everything must be moved into the two functions.



## **Green City continued**

Over in the electric car project, you can also try writing a function to draw trees:

```
function setup() {
   createCanvas(400, 400);
   background(220);
   drawTree(160);
}

function draw() {
   // we are going to use the draw function soon!
}

function drawTree(treeX) {
   fill(100, 100, 0);
   rect(treeX - 5, 350, 10, 20);
   fill(0, 200, 0);
   ellipse(treeX, 335, 40, 50);
}
```

Structure your electric car project code with functions:

- Write a drawCloud(x) function that draws a cloud
- Extend the drawTree(x) function to also accept a y-coordinate
- Write a drawCar(x) function that draws a car
- Write a drawPowerplant() function and a drawWindmill() function that draws the power plant and the windmill, respectively. We won't need to move them around, so they don't need to not take coordinates as an argument.

Call all the functions in the setup() for now. For example:

```
drawTree(150, 235);
drawTree(240, 335);
drawPowerplant();
drawWindmill();
drawCar(50);
drawCloud(280);
```