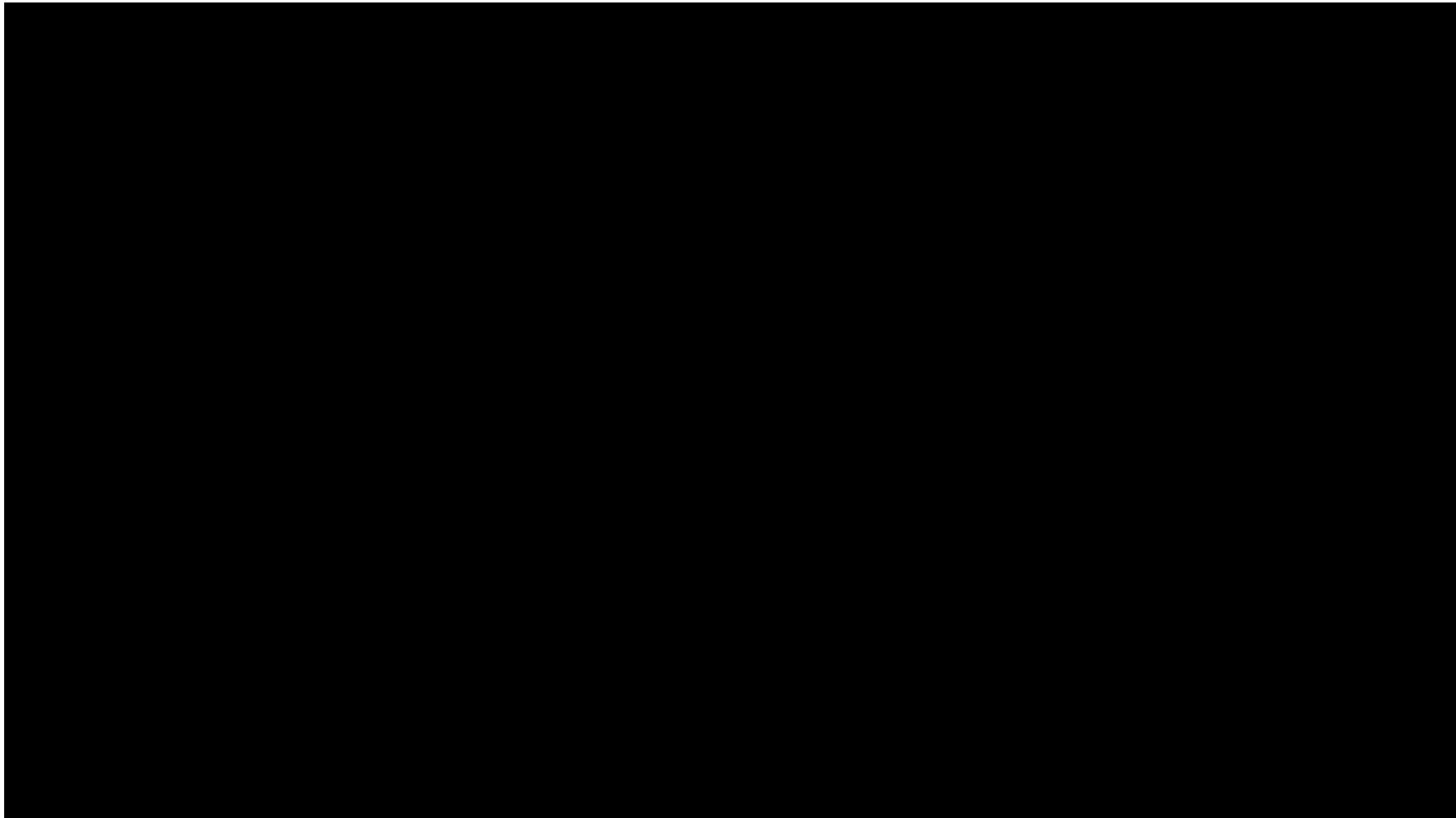


Greg Bulmash
@YiddishNinja
<http://Yiddish.ninja>

Kids & Devs Teaching Tech to Both

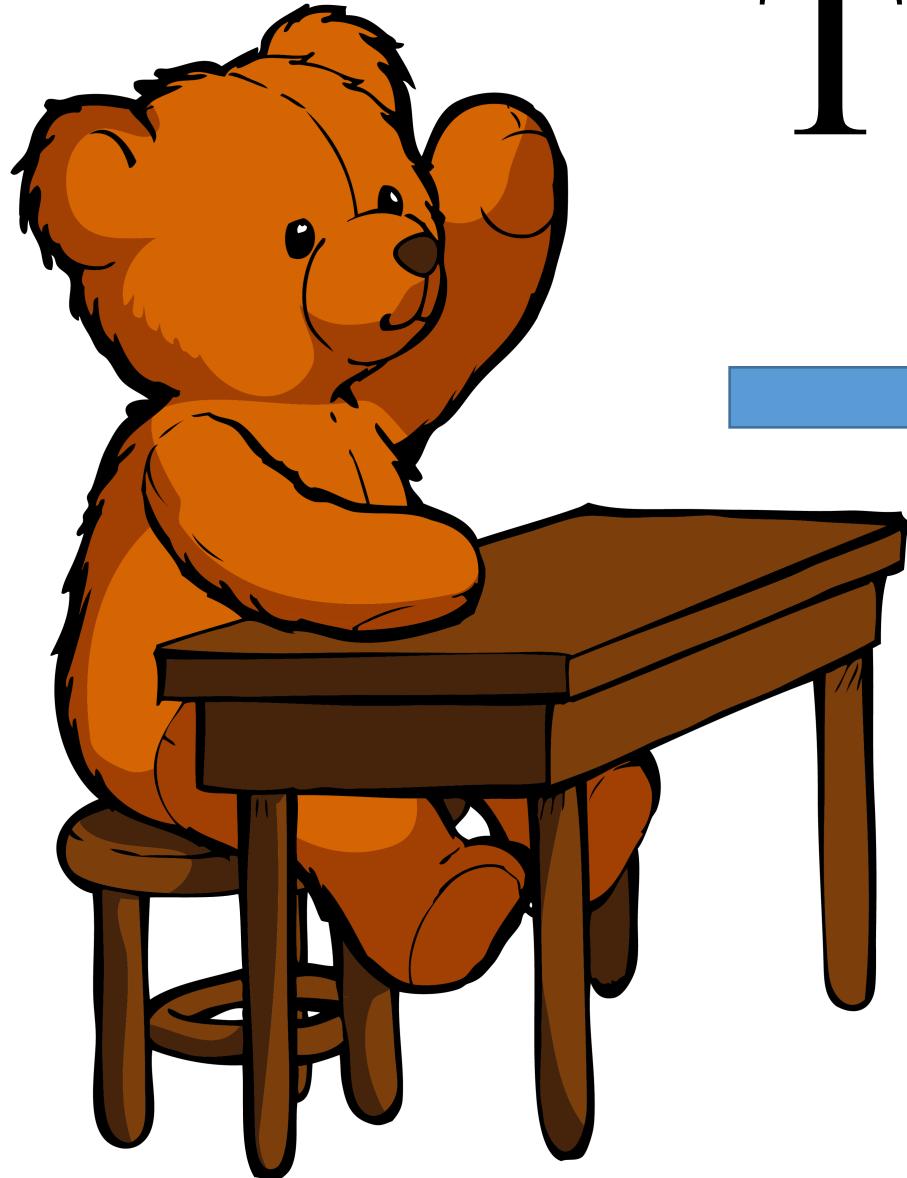
Photo by Margie Nicosia, used with permission

Who am i?



Credentials

- **Courseware Developer for Nortel
1990s**
- **Created IMDb user help section “IMDb University”
used 1999 – 2003**
- **Programmer Writer – Microsoft - IE Developer Center
2012 – 2015**
- **Lead Organizer and instructor – Seattle CoderDojo
2013 - Present**



The plan

- Understanding the two audiences
- Prep & planning
- Doing the teaching

MOTIVATION

- Reason for learning the topic?
- Reason for attending a class?

MOTIVATION

- **Reason for learning the topic?**
 - **Kid: Because it's fun**
 - **Adult: My boss is making me**
- **Reason for learning the topic?**
 - **Kid: My dad is making me**
 - **Adult: Because it's fun**

MOTIVATION

- **Reason for taking a class?**
 - **Both: To have someone to help**
 - **Both: To have someone else set the pace**
 - **Both: To join a F2F learning community.**

Knowing basics

- Kids won't know/have things we take for granted with developers.
- Most seven-year-olds don't touch-type.

Doctors are bad patients



maturity

Technical Ability != Emotional Maturity



The plan

- Understanding the two audiences
- Prep & planning
- Doing the teaching

Why are we here?



Photo by RelaxingMusic – license CC-BY – Source: Wikimedia Commons

Audience participation

- **Especially important in presentations without hands-on exercises.**
- **What are ways you can encourage audience participation?**

Procedural v. conceptual

- **Procedural: How do I do it?**
 - **Learning the latest office suite**
- **Conceptual: Why do I do it this way?**
 - **Learning to program**

MOTIVATORS

- **What motivators can you offer?**
 - **Both: Certificates of Completion**
 - **Both: Attendance Swag**
 - **Adults: Prizes get attention**
 - **Kids: Prizes have pitfalls**

required hardware

- **Kids are more likely to have hand-me-down or borrowed hardware.**
Sometimes REALLY old.
- **Parents will sign up three kids and bring one laptop.**

required software

- **Pre-Install or Install in Workshop?**
- **Are accounts needed?**

Fuzz Every Step

- Go through your directions and intentionally skip steps.
- Intentionally get things wrong.

supplements

- **Learning aids for in-class**
- **Hand-outs for after class**

The plan

- Understanding the two audiences
- Prep & planning
- Doing the teaching

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Two types of ?s



- **Those asked to gain knowledge**
- **Those asked to demonstrate knowledge.**

Self ADVOCACY

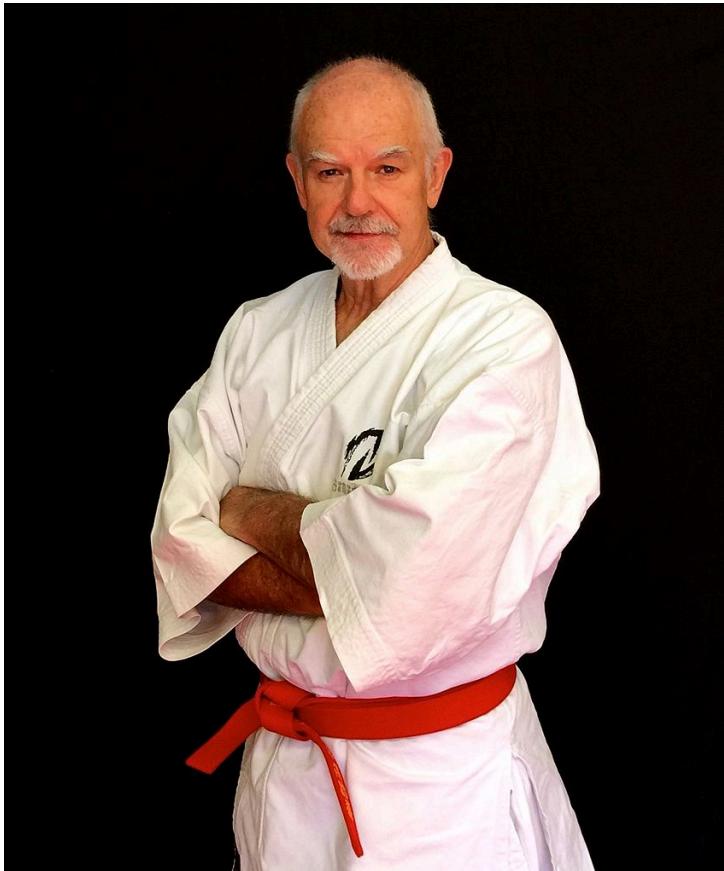


- Ask parents to stay with quieter kids and advocate for them.
- Check in with your quieter adults during breaks.

Presentation tip

Never put a really text heavy slide on the screen because people will spend their time reading it instead of listening to you. And if all you're doing is reading the slide to them, that's boring.

Be their sensei



- **You are their teacher,
not their parent.**
- **You are their teacher,
not their manager.**

Stay in touch

- Twitter: @YiddishNinja
- Blog: <http://Yiddish.Ninja>
- Email: gregb@seattlecoderdojo.com
- I have Ninja Kitten stickers!