PROGRAMMING @ CAREER DAY

Printable Instructions

SUPPLIES:

Floor Mat Tiles Sharpie Clicker Clicker Counter



PREPARE:

2 floor mats with YES

2 floor mats with NO

1 floor mat with girl figure on one side and lunchbox on the other side

1 floor mat with picture of pizza



DIRECTIONS

- 1) Introduce yourself and "What is Programming?"
- -Keep it simple and summarize: programming is the words and set of rules for telling a computer or computing device to perform specific tasks.
- -Ask students: "Are computers smart?"
- -Explain humans must tell the computers what to do and how to carry out the actions and tasks.
- 2)Explain Initial Coding- for example when you want your figure in a game to move you use a command to make the figure move. There is a code that does that.
- -Set up mat tiles in a single row.
- -Select a student to hold a clicker and a student to move through the tiles.
- -Each time the student clicks the clicker, the other student moves up the tiles. Explain that this simulates the coding entered that the gamer then uses.
- 3)Explain IF/THEN Logic- In programming we set conditions to keep your game character moving.
- -Find a simple task the kids do everyday and show how to "automate" it.
- -Setup the tiles like a hopscotch course where they come to a question.
- -"Are you a girl?"
- -Ask one student to demonstrate.
- -One student hops up to the question tile, and goes left/green for YES and right/red for NO.
- 4)Add a Loop-explain that loops allows all the characters (or in this case students) to run the course.
- -Line all students up and repeat the course where they come to a question until all students have gone through.
- -Flip the girl icon to the lunch box and repeat."Are you a girl?" and "Did you bring your lunch?"
- 5)Add a Counter-explain that a counter can be used to find out totals. For example, we would like to know how many students packed a lunch, want pizza. or are eating something else.
- -Using the course "did you bring a lunch" add an additional fork to the side "NO" with a new question "Cheese pizza?" YES/NO.
- -Put a student at the end of each fork with an old style counter.
- -Run the course with all students and have have the students with the clickers count after each person.
- -Now have the students with the clickers announce how many students either brought lunch, are buying cheese pizza or eating something else!
- 6) Explain Errors- tell students that sometimes they will see a pop up for an error or the game will freeze. Coders can have you retry, so that your game doesn't have to restart.
- -Using the original straight line mat tiles, line them up so that they end at a wall.
- -Select a student to hold a clicker and a student to move through the tiles.
- -Each time the student clicks the clicker, the other student moves up the tiles.
- -When the student "hits" the wall the class yells "Error!"







