

Integrating Computer Science in Algebra
2017 STEM Education Conference
East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN

C O
D E

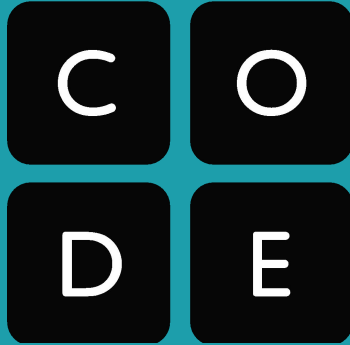
Hour of Code



C O
D E

Hour of Code





Hour of Code

Designed to demystify “code”, to show that anybody can learn the basics, and to broaden participation in the field of Computer Science

Students are learning in over 45 languages

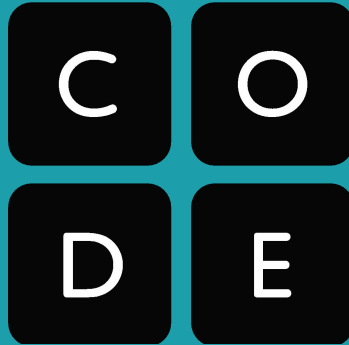


Over 100M students have tried an Hour of Code



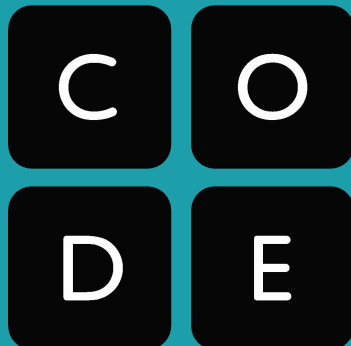
More girls tried computer science than in the last 70 years





Beyond the Hour of Code

Elementary school						Middle school			High school			
K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
CS Fundamentals 20 hour courses for each grade can be taught once a week												
						CS Fundamentals: Accelerated Version Condensed version of curriculum In one 20 hour course for older students						
						CS Discoveries Semester or full year course						
									CS Principles Full year course			



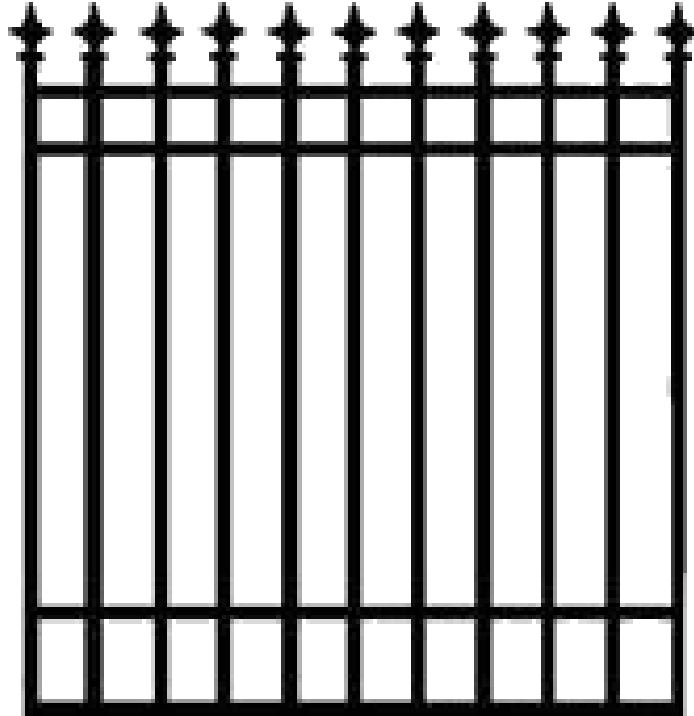
Let's talk about Algebra...

Essential for abstract thinking,
STEM fields, income and
-for better or worse- standardized
testing

Fundamental leap from arithmetic



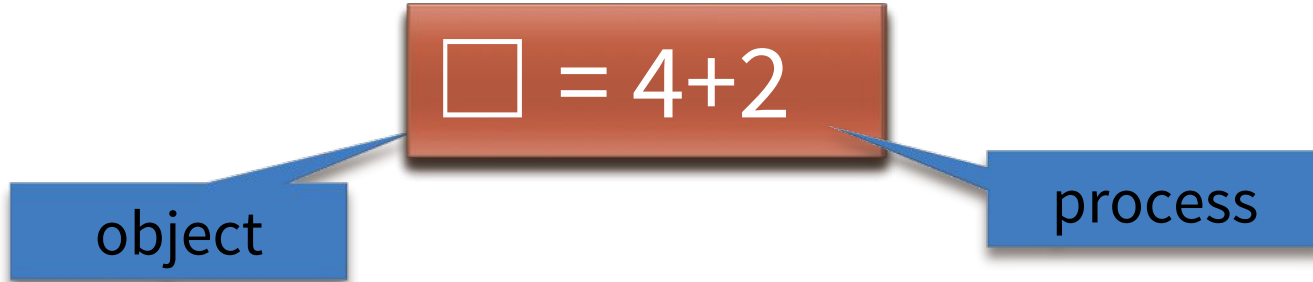
Algebra Matters



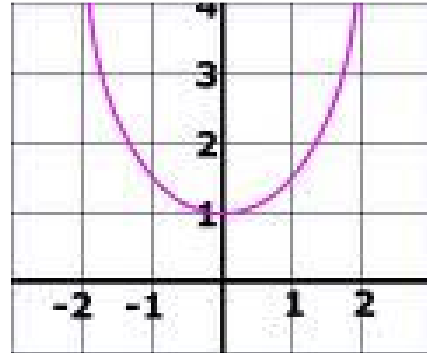
A train leaves Chicago...



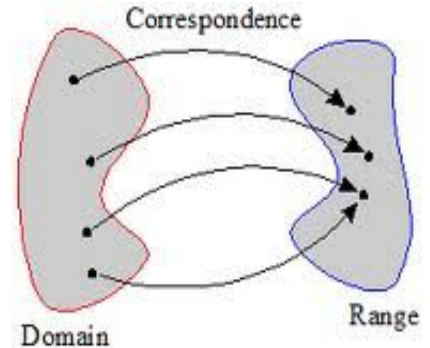
Why is Algebra so Hard?



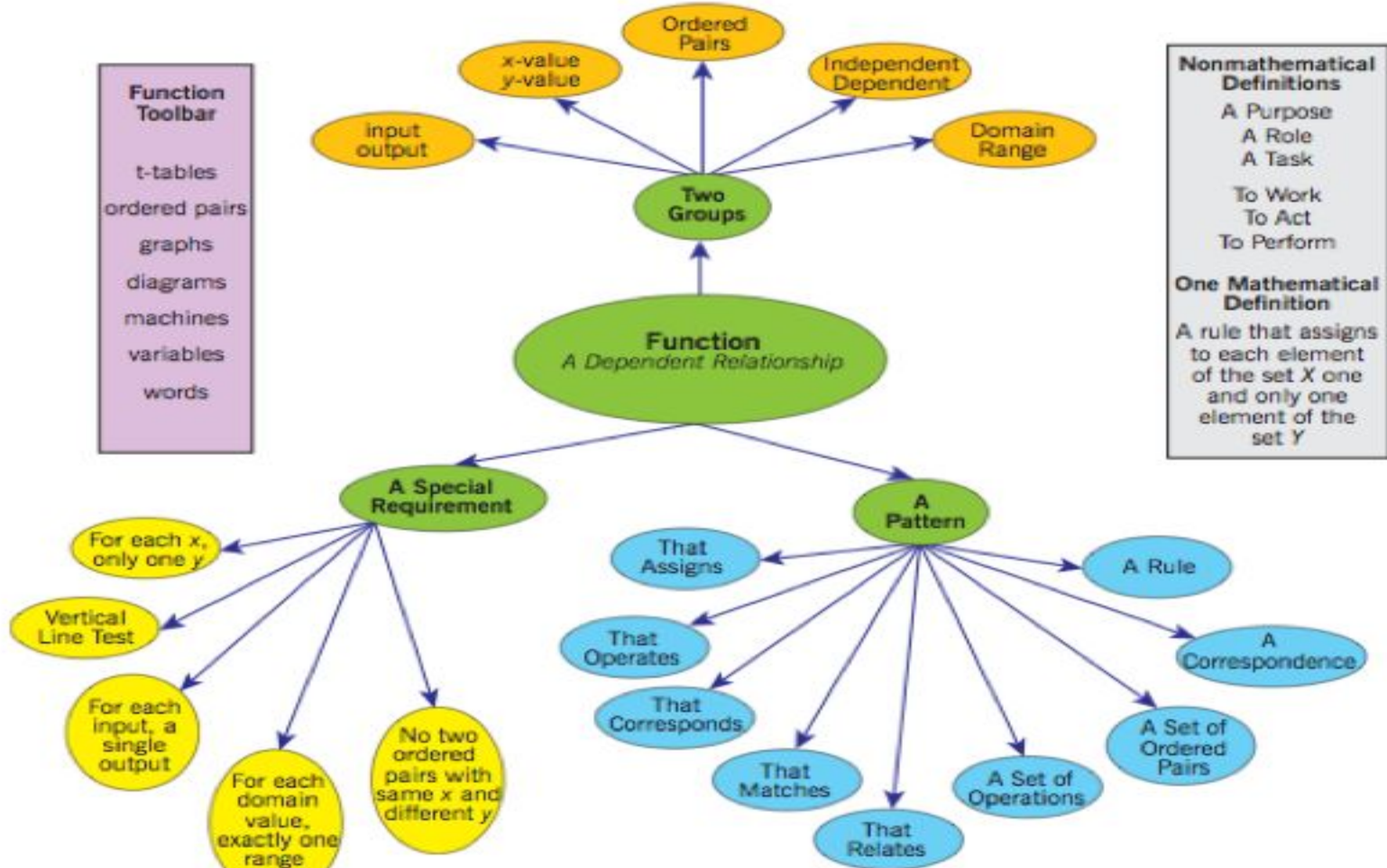
$$f(u, v) = u + \frac{v}{2}$$



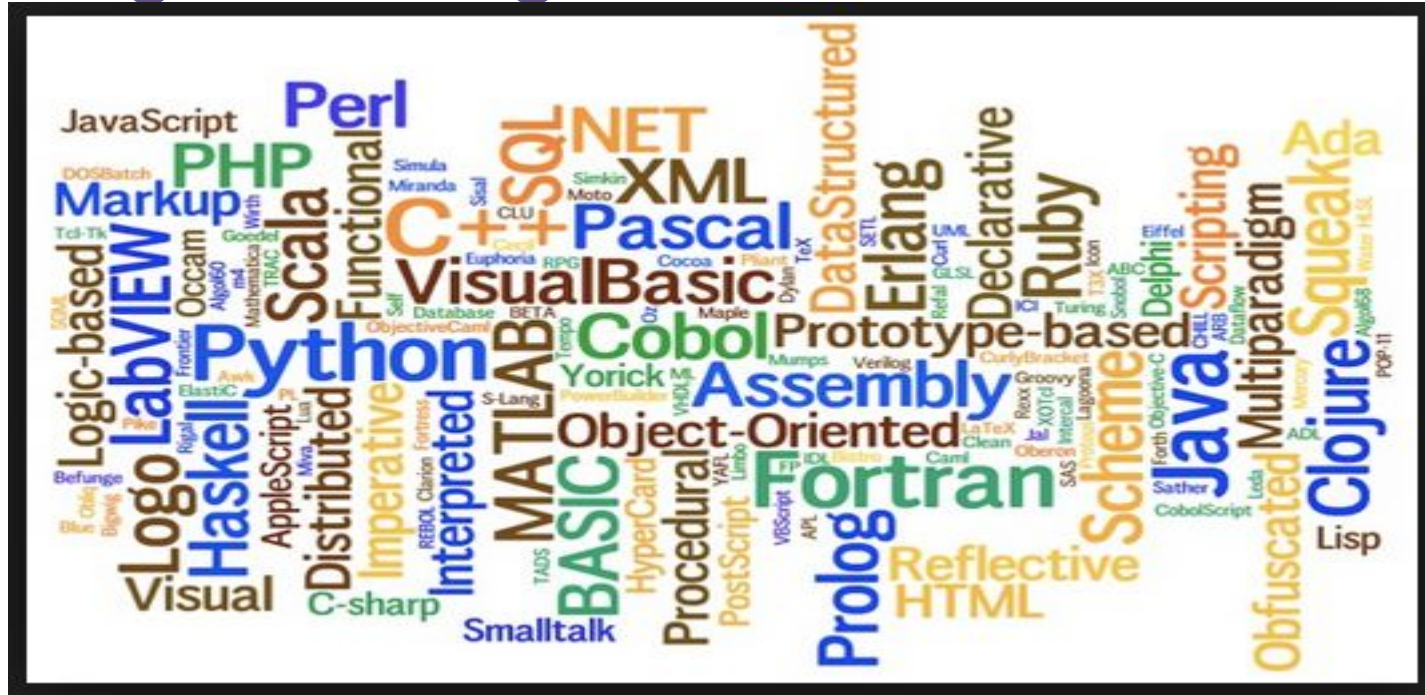
x	F(x)
-5	24
-3	8
-2	3



THE CORE IDEAS THAT DEFINE FUNCTIONS



Programming has Functions!

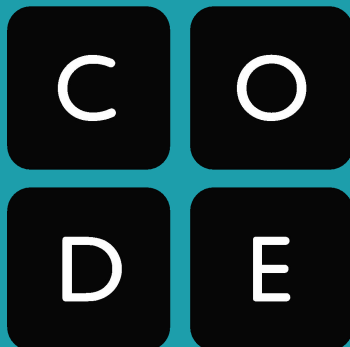


But there's a problem...

Programming \neq Math

```
x = 10  
x = x + 2
```

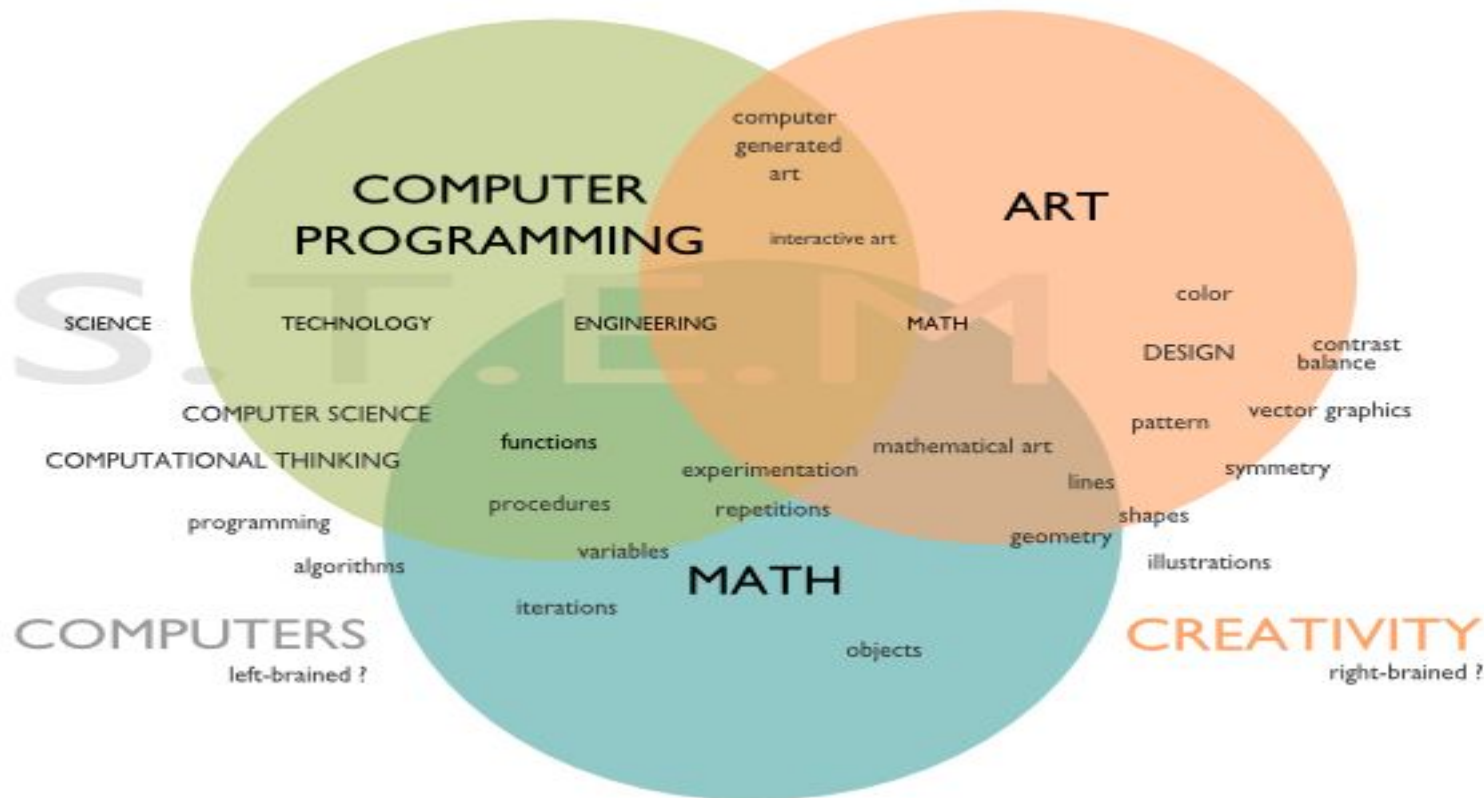
```
foo = 0  
function f(x) {  
    return foo++  
}
```



So if we want to help students...

Make representations of functions concrete

Make sure multiple representations are taught together

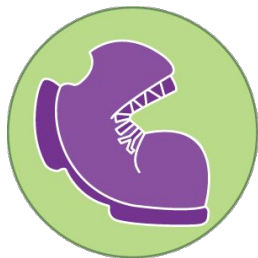


Coding

```
Dictionary *fields = [NSM  
savingsTargetID = [NSNum  
etObject:savingsTargetID fo  
categoryID = [NSNumber nu  
etObject:categoryID forKey  
parentGoalID = [NSNumber  
etObject:parentGoalID forKe  
name = [results stringFor  
etObject:name forKey:@"name  
color = [results stringFor  
etObject:color forKey:@"col  
saveAmount = [NSNumber num  
saveAmount forKey:
```

Video Game Design





Bootstrap

+ computing creatively
+ thriving mathematically

Text-based Language

Open-ended projects

Lesson plans

Complete Student Workbook

Supporting Videos

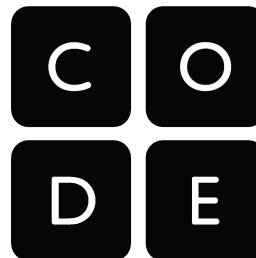
Warm-up Activities

Exit Slips

Homework Assignments

Rubrics

Pedagogy



Block-based Language

Scaffolded projects

Lesson Plans

Student Workbook

Teacher Facing Videos

Student Facing Videos

Supplemental Resources

Teacher Dashboard

Pedagogy



Computer Science in Algebra Overview

- Modules are integrated into an existing Algebra course
- Visual approach to function composition
- Programmatic method for solving word problems
- Making the learning concrete, relevant and engaging
- Programming language designed explicitly for Algebra





Computer Science in Algebra

Learn Functional Programming through Algebra

Stage 1: Unplugged: Video Games and Coordinate Planes

Unplugged Activity

1 2

Stage 2: Evaluation Blocks and Arithmetic Expressions

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15

Stage 3: Strings and Images

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Stage 4: Unplugged: Contracts, Domain, and Range

Unplugged Activity

Stage 5: Writing Contracts

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Stage 6: Defining Variables and Substitution

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15

Stage 7: The Big Game - Variables

1 2 3 4

Stage 8: Composite Functions

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15

Stage 9: Unplugged: The Design Recipe

Unplugged Activity

Stage 10: Rocket Height

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Stage 11: Solving Word Problems with the Design Recipe

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Stage 12: The Big Game - Animation

1 2 3 4

Stage 13: Unplugged: Booleans and Logic

Unplugged Activity

Stage 14: Boolean Operators

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Stage 15: Sam the Bat

1 2 3 4 5

Stage 16: The Big Game - Booleans

1 2 3 4 5

Stage 17: Unplugged: Conditionals and Piecewise Functions

Unplugged Activity

Stage 18: Conditionals

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

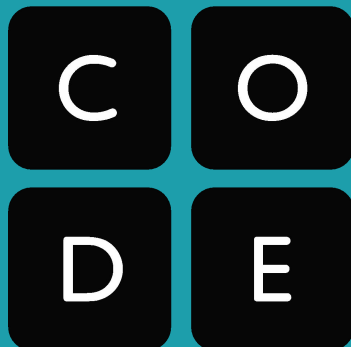
Stage 19: Unplugged: Collision Detection and the Pythagorean Theorem

Unplugged Activity



Setting up your Classroom

- Physical Materials (workbooks, pens, etc)
- One computer for each pair of students
- Teacher Account at studio.code.org
- Class sections and student accounts in the [Teacher Dashboard](#)
- Students login and visit studio.code.org/s/algebra
- Lesson Plans available at code.org/curriculum/algebra



Task 1: Make Representations of Functions Concrete

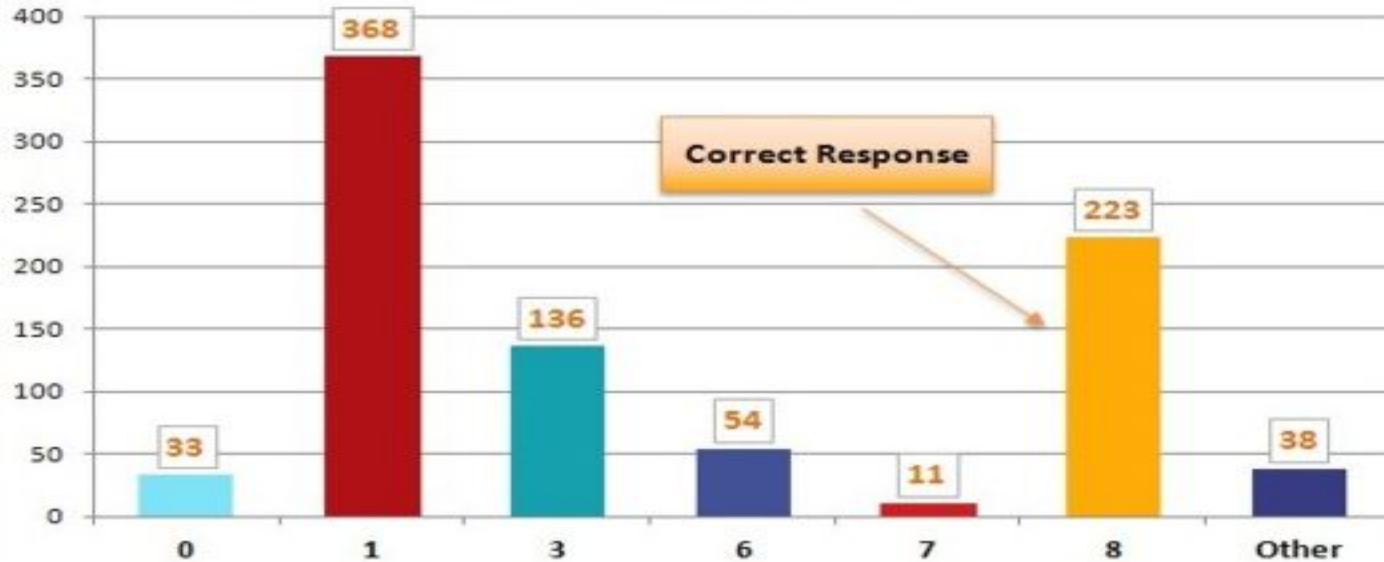


Can you answer
this?

$$7 - 1 \times 0 + 3 \div 3 = ?$$



Facebook Responses: $7 - 1 \times 0 + 3 \div 3 = ?$



Student



Teacher





$$7 - 1 \times 0 + 3 \div 3 = ?$$

7

0

6

3

1

8



$$7 - 1 \times 0 + 3 \div 3 = ?$$

8

$$\begin{aligned} & (3 / 3) + (7 - (0 * 1)) \\ = & (3 / 3) + (7 - 0) \\ = & 1 + (7 - 0) \\ = & 1 + 7 \\ = & 8 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & (7 - (1 * 0)) + (3 / 3) \\ = & (7 - 0) + (3 / 3) \\ = & 7 + (3 / 3) \\ = & 7 + 1 \\ = & 8 \end{aligned}$$



$$7 - 1 \times 0 + 3 \div 3 = ?$$

evaluate

+

-

7

*

1

0

/

3

3

C
O
D
E
STUDIO

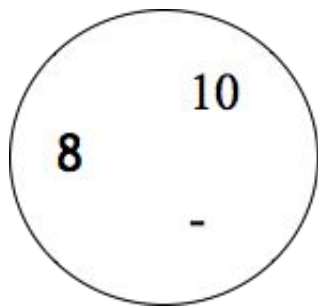
YOUR EXPRESSION

$$\begin{aligned} & (7 - (1 * 0)) + (3 / 3) \\ = & (7 - 0) + (3 / 3) \\ = & 7 + (3 / 3) \\ = & 7 + 1 \\ = & 8 \end{aligned}$$

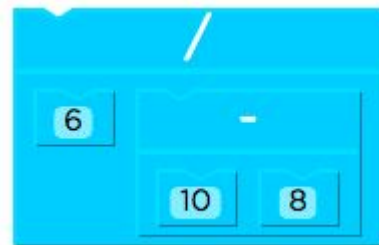
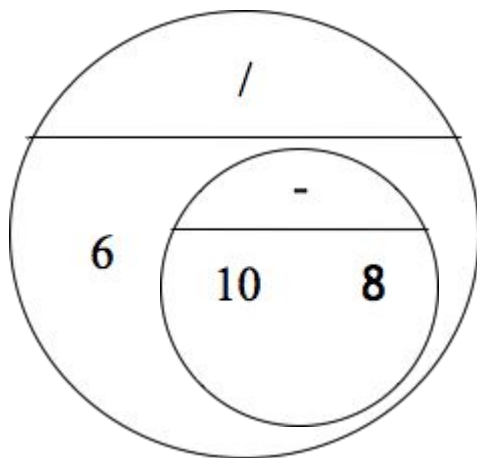


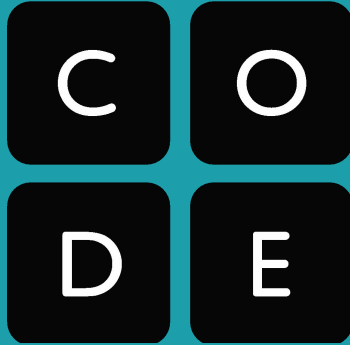
Circles of Evaluation

$10 - 8$



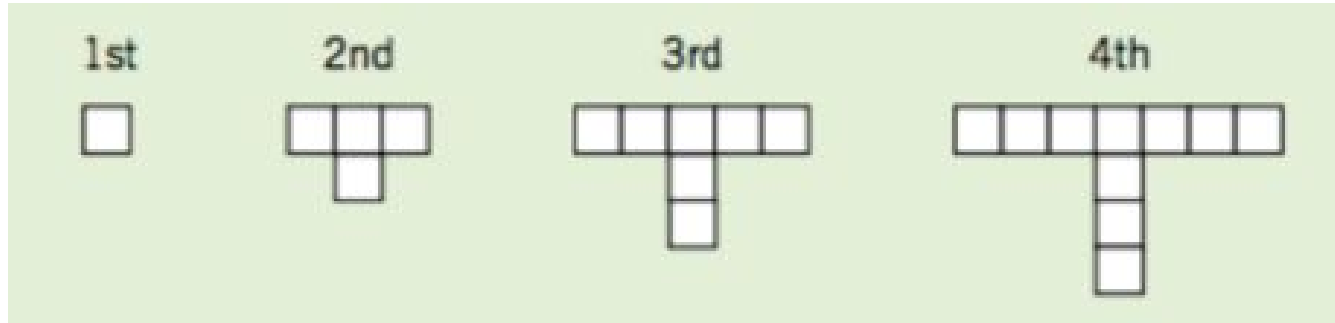
$$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ 10 - 8 \end{array}$$





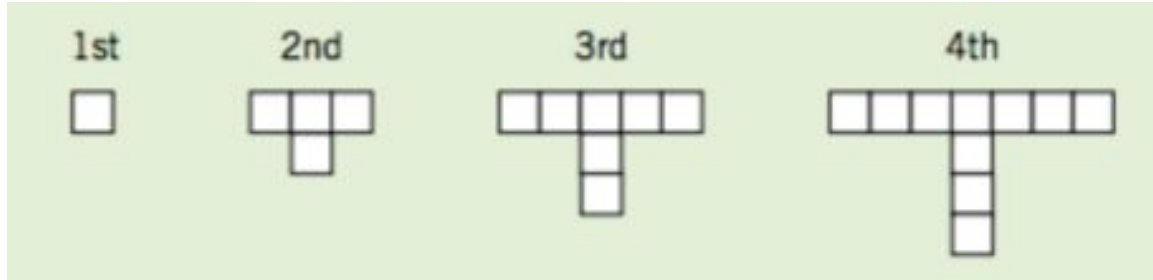
Task 2

Make sure multiple representations
are taught together



Find the number of tiles on the...

- 5th stage
- 8th Stage
- 50th Stage



x	y
1	1
2	4
3	7
4	10
...	...
8	?



+3

+3

+3

$$a_n = a + (n - 1)d$$

5th

$$\begin{aligned} &= 1 + (5-1)3 \\ &= 1 + (4)3 \\ &= 1 + 12 \\ &= 13 \end{aligned}$$

8th

$$\begin{aligned} &= 1 + (8-1)3 \\ &= 1 + (7)3 \\ &= 1 + 21 \\ &= 22 \end{aligned}$$

50th

$$\begin{aligned} &= 1 + (50-1)3 \\ &= 1 + (49)3 \\ &= 1 + 147 \\ &= 148 \end{aligned}$$

The Design recipe

- State the problem in your own words
- Identify what is given, what is changeable, and what must be returned
- Work through a few examples
- Write the function
- Test the function using your examples

Name: _____ Date: _____ Per: _____

The Design Recipe

Code.org Computer Science in Algebra

Description:

Contract and Purpose Statement

Every contract has three parts...

function name : _____ domain _____ -> _____ range _____

what does the function do?

Examples

Write some examples for your function in action...

Example: _____ (_____ input(s)) = _____ what the function produces

Example: _____ (_____ input(s)) = _____ what the function produces

Definition

Write the definition, giving variable names to all your input values

Define: _____ (_____ variables) = _____

what the function does with those variables



1

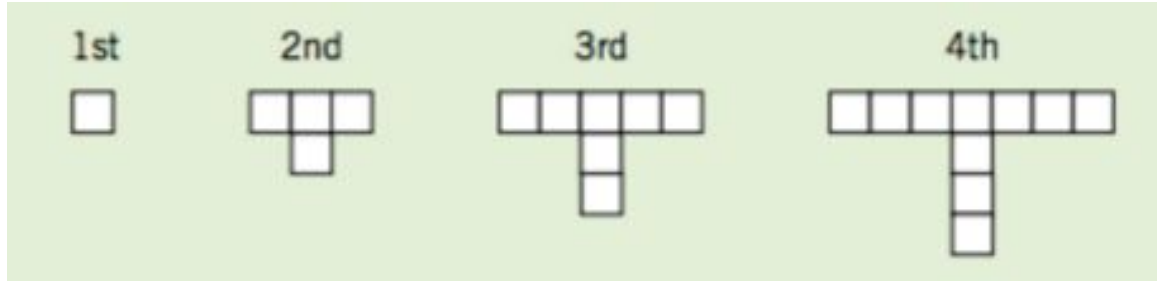
CONTRACT

Describes what data **Types** your function takes as its **Domain** and returns as its **Range**.

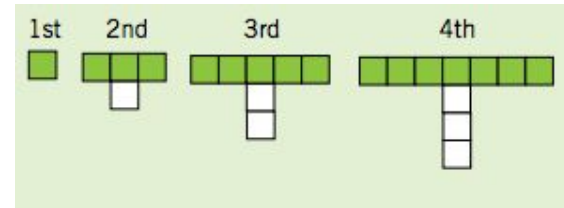
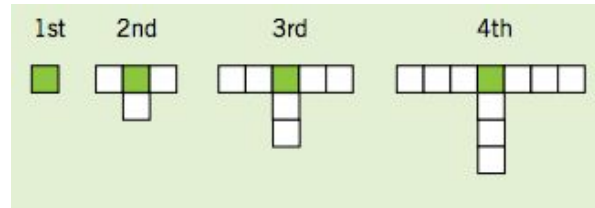
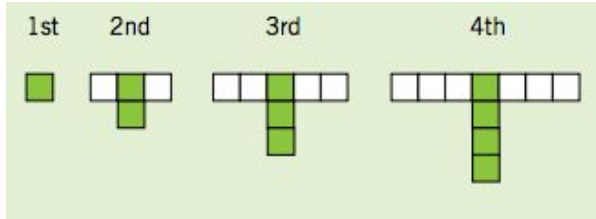
Name: green-triangle
Domain: Number
Range: Image

```
green-triangle (size) east
```

```
???
```



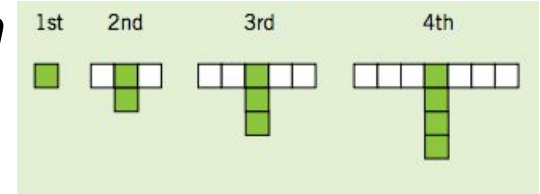
What is the same? / What is different?



Fast Functions



Write a function *findNew*, which takes in a number and produces a number that following the pattern



findNew : Number \rightarrow Number
name domain range

Example: $\text{findNew}(4) = 4 + (4 - 1) + (4 - 1)$ or $4 + 2(4 - 1)$

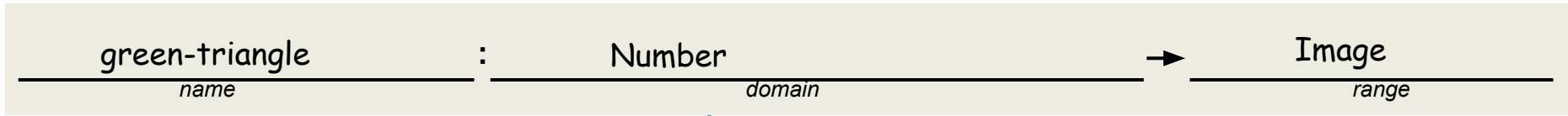
Example: $\text{findNew}(3) = 3 + (3 - 1) + (3 - 1)$ or $3 + 2(3 - 1)$

Define: $\text{findNew}(n) = n + (n - 1) + (n - 1)$ or $n + 2(n - 1)$



Fast Functions

Write a function *green-triangle*, which takes in a size and produces a solid, green triangle of that size.



Example: green-triangle (15^{size}) = triangle(15^{size}, "solid" , "green")

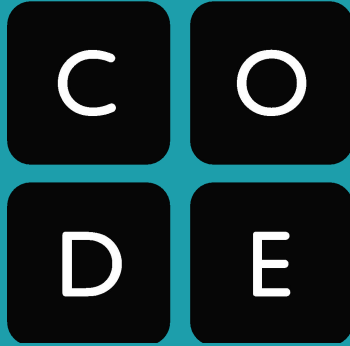
Example: green-triangle (100) = triangle(100, "solid" , "green")

Define: green-triangle (size) = triangle(size , "solid" , "green")



The Design Recipe

A batch of cookies will feed 12 hungry students. Write a function `feed`, which takes in the number of batches of cookies and produces the number of students we can feed.



Multiple Representations



STUDIO

Share

Remix

1

MORE



Run



Now that you've learned to write simple linear functions, let's work on using them to add some movement to our game. Click run to see what your

Blocks

- Number
- String
- Image
- Boolean
- Cond
- Variables
- Functions

Workspace:

game_funcs

title, subtitle, background

Title

edit

subtitle

edit

bg

edit

target, danger, player

target

edit

danger

edit

player

edit

update-target, update-danger, update-player

update-target

edit

update-danger

edit

update-player

edit

collide?, onscreen?

collide?

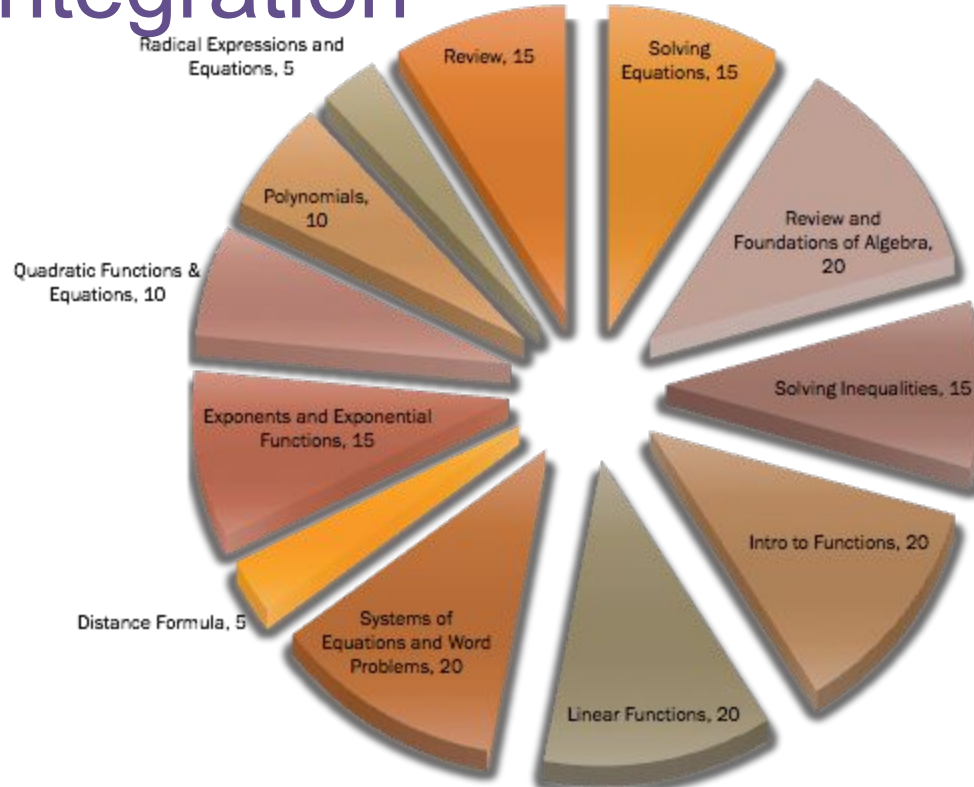
edit

onscreen?

edit



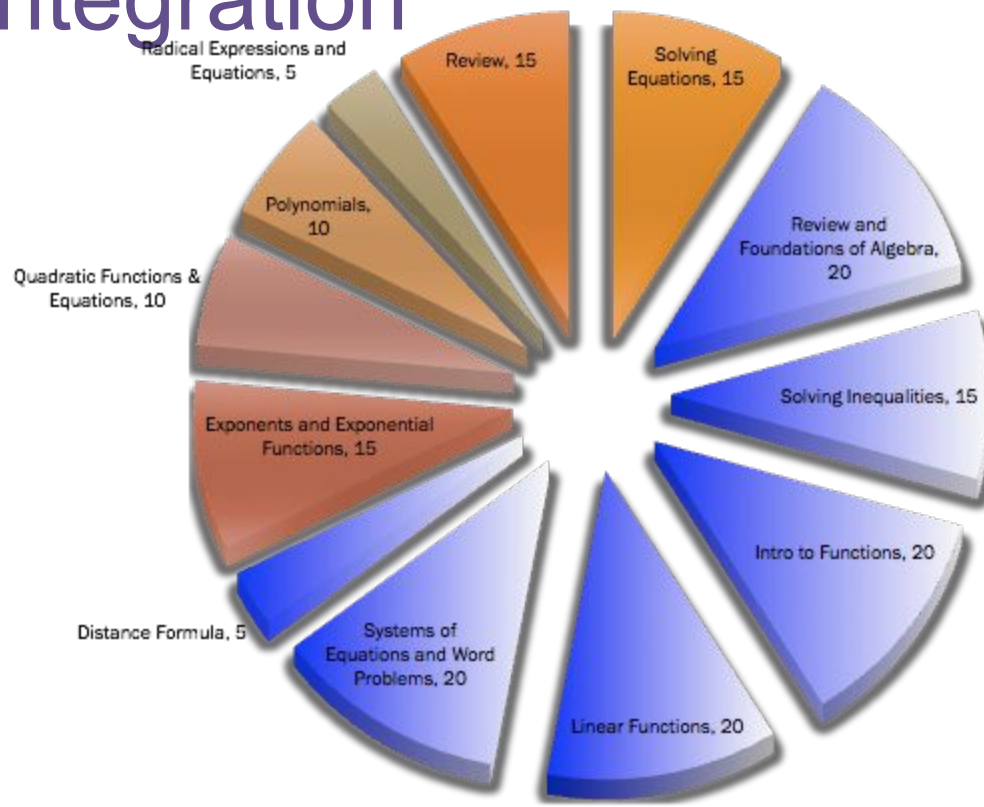
Integration



- Evaluation Blocks
- Design Recipe
- Rocket-Height
- Target/Danger Motion
- Sam the Bat
- Player Motion
- Collision Detection



Integration



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