

Coding for Good Badges

Glossary

Algorithm - a list of steps to solve a problem or complete a task. For example, when you follow the steps of a recipe, you're using an algorithm.

App (short for application) - a software program that runs on your computer, tablet, or phone.

Code - the language that computer scientists create and use to tell computers what to do. Beginning programmers usually start coding with block-based coding (visual blocks that link together) to build their algorithms. As they progress, they'll move into using written coding languages such as JavaScript or Python.

Computer - any device that stores information and follows instructions from a program. For example, a laptop is a computer; so is a coffee maker that can be programmed.

Computer scientists - the people who create computers and write code that tells them what to do. Also called coders or programmers.

Decomposition - to break down a problem into smaller steps or pieces to solve.

Development - when you create something new.

Digital games - games you can play on your phone, computer, TV, tablet, or gaming console. Also called video games.

Iterate - when you repeat a process many times to make something better.

Programming - when a person creates a sequence of instructions, or an algorithm, that makes a computer or machine do something.

Sequence - the step-by-step order in which instructions or events should happen. For example: Think of the steps you do to get ready in the morning. You wouldn't get dressed before getting in the shower!

Sorting algorithm - computers use these types of algorithms to sort information in a specific order. There are many types of sorting algorithms that have specific steps on how to sort items in a list, and sometimes they're very complex.