

Lesson 1 - Getting Started

Expected Time: 45 - 60 minutes

Aspect of National Curriculum Programme of Study covered:

KS2 objective a - Design, write and debug programs that accomplish specific goals, including controlling or simulating physical systems; solve problems by decomposing them into smaller parts

KS2 objective f - Select, use and combine a variety of software (including internet services) on a range of digital devices to design and create a range of programs, systems and content that accomplish given goals, including collecting, analysing, evaluating and presenting data and information

Objectives

Student will be able to;

- Input and test a set of instructions to a programme or device
- Write a simple programme that accomplishes specific goals

Activity

Step 1. Lets start by opening up a new whiteboard session [Click here to open in a new tab](#)

Step 2. Click on the left hand box on the whiteboard page and type in "title hello" without speech marks.

title hello

Step 3. Click the reload and the code should run placing a title on the right hand window saying hello. It should look like the below screenshot:



Step 4. Lets go ahead and add some more code. Type each line below from the code box into the code window below title hello. When you have finished typing click reload to run your new code.

type This is my first web page

newline

type The newline command above puts an extra gap between the text

Step 5. Notice how the first word of each line in the code is a command. You are telling the computer to type out the text or to add a newline. These commands are called functions and there are lots of them that do different things. Let's try some more. Click reload after completing each of the next steps.

Step 6. Lets use the colour command to change the font colour.

colour blue

Step 7. Now we can use the background function to change the colour of the background.

background pink

Step 8. Finally lets change the font to something different.

font Times New Roman

Step 9. Your white board should now look something like the below screen shot. Note how you have added a title, some text and changed the style of the page.

Step 10. Go ahead and try changing the colours of the background and font to your favourite colours.



ChildScript.com - Lesson Notes

Lesson 1 - Getting Started

This lesson gives the children an opportunity to experiment using the beginning of coding language to enter text onto a screen.

By the end of the lesson the children should be able to give their piece of text a title, write a short paragraph and change the colour of the text and background.

Writing code

The initial word in the line of code is the command / instruction which instructs the computer what to do. It does not matter if the word begins with a capital letter or not.

- *For example;*
Title hello world
title hello world

To add or edit something on the page you must begin a new line of code. Once the title is complete and you wish to add a written paragraph underneath, begin a new line and start the sentence with type, this instructs the computer to write something.

- *For example;*
title World War 1
type World War 1 began in 1914 and ended 1918, November 11th, at 11.00am.

Font

To change the font of the text enter the name of the font required. This can be any font which is already installed onto your computer.

- *For example;*
font Bookman Old Style

Using Punctuation

When writing text, the only punctuation which can not be used is the semi colon ; as Coders, when wanting to shorten the amount of lines they are writing, use the semicolon as a symbol for a new line.

- *For example; current code*
title A balanced diet
colour red
- *Coders language using a semi-colon*
title A balanced diet; colour red

Background colour

When choosing a background colour type background followed by the name of the colour needed. The colour chosen must be spelt correctly. On occasion there may be a colour which is not in the system and for this we apologise. Unfortunately this can not be helped and an alternative will have to be chosen.

- *For example;*
background khaki
background turquoise

Bugs

This lesson should be fairly straight forward so bugs should not be a problem. If the code isn't loading correctly, check the spelling of each function (instruction) and ensure that there aren't any semicolons in the text. If all else fails you can load the example code into the whiteboard and work on it from there.