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The Official ScratchJr Book: Help Your Kids Learn To Code





Synopsis

ScratchJr is a free, introductory computer programming language that runs on iPads, Android tablets, tablets, and Chromebooks. Inspired by Scratch, the wildly popular programming language used by millions of children worldwide, ScratchJr helps even younger kids create their own playful animations, interactive stories, and dynamic games. The Official ScratchJr Book is the perfect companion to this free app and makes coding easy and fun for all. Kids learn to program by connecting blocks of code to make characters move, jump, dance, and sing. Each chapter includes several activities that build on one another, culminating in a fun final project. These hands-on activities help kids develop computational-thinking, problem-solving, and design skills. In each activity, youââ \neg â, α II find:ââ \neg â α Step-by-step, easy-to-follow directionsââ \neg â α Ways to connect the activity with literacy and math conceptsââ \neg â α Tips for grown-ups and teachersââ \neg â α Creative challenges to take the learning furtherBy the end of the book, kids will be ready for all sorts of new programming adventures!The ScratchJr app now supports English, Spanish, Catalan, Dutch, French, Italian, and Thai.

Book Information

Paperback: 160 pages Publisher: No Starch Press; 1 edition (October 1, 2015) Language: English ISBN-10: 1593276710 ISBN-13: 978-1593276713 Product Dimensions: 7.1 x 0.4 x 9.2 inches Shipping Weight: 11.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies) Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 27 customer reviews Best Sellers Rank: #68,401 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #32 inà Â Books > Computers & Technology > Games & Strategy Guides > Game Programming #37 inà Â Books > Children's Books > Computers & Technology > Programming #189 in Â Books > Humor & Entertainment > Puzzles & Games > Video & Computer Games Age Range: 5 - 9 years Grade Level: Kindergarten - 4

Customer Reviews

Marina Umaschi Bers is a professor in the Eliot-Pearson Department of Child Study and Human Development and adjunct professor in the Computer Science Department at Tufts University. She heads the Developmental Technologies Research group where she studies innovative ways to promote positive childhood development through new learning technologies. She is also the creator of KIBO, a robotics platform for children 4 to 7, which allows young builders to learn programming and engineering skills without screens. Mitchel Resnick is the creator of Scratch, the wildly popular programming language used in thousands of schools and homes worldwide, with nearly 4 million users. He directs the Lifelong Kindergarten group at the MIT Media Lab and was awarded the McGraw Prize in Education in 2011 for his creative learning technologies.

A great companion read for the app. I would say this is a great program for younger kids, or kids who have never coded. The book breaks the steps down so that they are immediately making something, which is fantastic in keeping interest. As you progress, you add more detail. If you are not a coder and are trying to help your children, this may be a wise investment as it will help you guide them. But I let my daughter read the book and do the steps herself. We have fun just sending each other our little movies and trying to outdo each other in how fancy we can make them. Because this is just an introductory program, the difficulty and frustration levels should be low. But it's still a good program to teach them how to back up and figure out where did they make a mistake. I would recommend this to all beginner coders using the Scratch Jr. App. My guess is the target audience is about kindergarten-2nd grade (depending on their computer literacy).

This book is done really well if you need very precise step by step instructions. I downloaded the app for my son a few days before we got the book and he figured out how to do 90% of what's in the book by himself just playing. So this book wasn't a good value for us. We did it all in 1 day. It would have benefited us more if it had more suggestions on what to make without showing the code on how to do it. More activities for them to try and make after learning about all the buttons. More ideas and inspiration for them. After each activity there is a literacy connection and a math connection which is nice for homeschoolers. My suggestion is download the app and let them play. If they are having difficulty, then order the book.

It is a simple book but very good as a start.

Easy to follow and use with kids!

Purchased for our grandson. He is looking forward to writing his own cartoon.

Informative

Once again, No Starch Press knocks it out of the park.

Gift for my granddaughter. She liked it.

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