

CreositySpace – Coding Whisperers

Investigation Descriptions and Standards Alignment

General Investigation Descriptions

Below you will find brief descriptions of the hands-on activities associated with the *Coding Whisperers* unit. The investigations assume you have access to a computer, laptop, or tablet running Windows, macOS, ChromeOS or Android. Devices must be WiFi and Bluetooth compatible. If you would like to check your computer's compatibility, please email us at kath@creosityspace.com.

Introduction to SCRATCH

Objective:

To learn about programming in Scratch and how to put together pieces of code to execute a program

Materials:

Computer and Scratch software

General Description:

In this experiment students will learn the basics of programming by using Scratch software.

Animation

Objective:

To better understand how to program in Scratch and how to put together pieces of code to execute a program

Materials:

Computer and Scratch software

General Description:

In this experiment students will expand their understanding of programming by using Scratch software.

Introduction to BBC micro:bit

Objective:

To introduce external devices to computer programming.

Materials:

Computer, BBC micro:bit, micro USB cord

General Description:

Students will learn how to develop code that responds to inputs, or produces outputs, on the BBC micro:bit.

Flappy Bird Hacked!!

Objective:

To explore different ways to modify an existing program

Materials:

Computer, BBC micro:bit, micro USB cord

General Description:

The students will be given a fully working version of flappy bird, and it is their job to figure out how to change the controls.

Design Your Own Video Game

Objective:

Students must work together to design their own working video game.



Education Standards

Don't see the standards for your school district? Contact us at Kath@CreositySpace.com and we will determine the appropriate standards alignment for your district.

Common Core ELA Standards

Grade 3

Reading Informational Text:

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.1](#) Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.2](#) Determine the main idea of a text; recount the key details and explain how they support the main idea.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.4](#) Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text relevant to a *grade 3 topic or subject area*.

Writing:

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.2](#) Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.2.a](#) Introduce a topic and group related information together; include illustrations when useful to aiding comprehension.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.2.b](#) Develop the topic with facts, definitions, and details.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.2.c](#) Use linking words and phrases (e.g., *also, another, and, more, but*) to connect ideas within categories of information.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.2.d](#) Provide a concluding statement or section.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.1](#) Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.1.a](#) Introduce the topic or text they are writing about, state an opinion, and create an organizational structure that lists reasons.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.1.b](#) Provide reasons that support the opinion.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.1.c](#) Use linking words and phrases (e.g., *because, therefore, since, for example*) to connect opinion and reasons.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.1.d](#) Provide a concluding statement or section.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.4](#) With guidance and support from adults, produce writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task and purpose. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1-3 above.)

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.5](#) With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.6](#) With guidance and support from adults, use technology to produce and publish writing (using keyboarding skills) as well as to interact and collaborate with others.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.7](#) Conduct short research projects that build knowledge about a topic.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.8](#) Recall information from experiences or gather information from print and digital sources; take brief notes on sources and sort evidence into provided categories.

Speaking & Listening:

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.3.1](#) Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on *grade 3 topics and texts*, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.3.1.A](#) Come to discussions prepared, having read or studied required material; explicitly draw on that preparation and other information known about the topic to explore ideas under discussion.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.3.1.B](#) Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions (e.g., gaining the floor in respectful ways, listening to others with care, speaking one at a time about the topics and texts under discussion).

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.3.1.c](#) Ask questions to check understanding of information presented, stay on topic, and link their comments to the remarks of others.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.3.1.d](#) Explain their own ideas and understanding in light of the discussion.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.3.3](#) Ask and answer questions about information from a speaker, offering appropriate elaboration and detail.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.3.4](#) Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details, speaking clearly at an understandable pace.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.3.6](#) Speak in complete sentences when appropriate to task and situation in order to provide requested detail or clarification.

Language:

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.3.1](#) Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.3.1.A](#) Explain the function of nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs in general and their functions in particular sentences.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.3.2](#) Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.3.4](#) Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning word and phrases based on grade 3 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

Grade 4

Reading Informational Text:

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.4.1](#) Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.4.2](#) Determine the main idea of a text and explain how it is supported by key details; summarize the text.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.4.4](#) Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words or phrases in a text relevant to a *grade 4 topic or subject area*.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.4.5](#) Describe the overall structure (e.g., chronology, comparison, cause/effect, problem/solution) of events, ideas, concepts, or information in a text or part of a text.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.4.7](#) Interpret information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively (e.g., in charts, graphs, diagrams, time lines, animations, or interactive elements on Web pages) and explain how the information contributes to an understanding of the text in which it appears.

Writing:



[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.1](#) Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.1.A](#) Introduce a topic or text clearly, state an opinion, and create an organizational structure in which related ideas are grouped to support the writer's purpose.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.1.B](#) Provide reasons that are supported by facts and details.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.1.C](#) Link opinion and reasons using words and phrases

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.1.D](#) Provide a concluding statement or section related to the opinion presented.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.2](#) Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.2.A](#) Introduce a topic clearly and group related information in paragraphs and sections; include formatting (e.g., headings), illustrations, and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.2.B](#) Develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples related to the topic.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.2.C](#) Link ideas within categories of information using words and phrases.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.2.D](#) Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.2.E](#) Provide a concluding statement or section related to the information or explanation presented.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.4](#) Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.8](#) Recall relevant information from experiences or gather relevant information from print and digital sources; take notes and categorize information, and provide a list of sources.

Speaking & Listening:

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.4.1](#) Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on *grade 4 topics and texts*, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.4.1.A](#) Come to discussions prepared, having read or studied required material; explicitly draw on that preparation and other information known about the topic to explore ideas under discussion.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.4.1.B](#) Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions and carry out assigned roles.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.4.1.C](#) Pose and respond to specific questions to clarify or follow up on information, and make comments that contribute to the discussion and link to the remarks of others.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.4.1.D](#) Review the key ideas expressed and explain their own ideas and understanding in light of the discussion.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.4.3](#) Identify the reasons and evidence a speaker provides to support particular points.

Language:

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.4.1](#) Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.4.1.A](#) Use relative pronouns (*who, whose, whom, which, that*) and relative adverbs (*where, when, why*).

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.4.2](#) Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.4.3](#) Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.4.3.A](#) Choose words and phrases to convey ideas precisely.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.4.4](#) Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 4 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

Grade 5

Reading Informational Text:

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.5.2](#) Determine two or more main ideas of a text and explain how they are supported by key details; summarize the text.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.5.3](#) Explain the relationships or interactions between two or more individuals, events, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text based on specific information in the text.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.5.4](#) Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text relevant to a *grade 5 topic or subject area*.

Writing:

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.1](#) Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.1.A](#) Introduce a topic or text clearly, state an opinion, and create an organizational structure in which ideas are logically grouped to support the writer's purpose.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.1.B](#) Provide logically ordered reasons that are supported by facts and details.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.1.C](#) Link opinion and reasons using words, phrases, and clauses

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.1.D](#) Provide a concluding statement or section related to the opinion presented.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.2](#) Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.2.A](#) Introduce a topic clearly, provide a general observation and focus, and group related information logically; include formatting (e.g., headings), illustrations, and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.2.B](#) Develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples related to the topic.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.2.C](#) Link ideas within and across categories of information using words, phrases, and clauses (e.g., *in contrast, especially*).

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.2.D](#) Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.2.E](#) Provide a concluding statement or section related to the information or explanation presented.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.4](#) Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.8](#) Recall relevant information from experiences or gather relevant information from print and digital sources; summarize or paraphrase information in notes and finished work, and provide a list of sources.

Speaking & Listening:

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.5.1](#) Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on *grade 5 topics and texts*, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.5.1.A](#) Come to discussions prepared, having read or studied required material; explicitly draw on that preparation and other information known about the topic to explore ideas under discussion.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.5.1.B](#) Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions and carry out assigned roles.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.5.1.C](#) Pose and respond to specific questions by making comments that contribute to the discussion and elaborate on the remarks of others.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.5.1.D](#) Review the key ideas expressed and draw conclusions in light of information and knowledge gained from the discussions.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.5.3](#) Summarize the points a speaker makes and explain how each claim is supported by reasons and evidence.

Language:

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.5.1](#) Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.5.1.A](#) Explain the function of conjunctions, prepositions, and interjections in general and their function in particular sentences.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.5.2](#) Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.5.3](#) Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.5.4](#) Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 5 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

Common Core Math Standards

Grade 3

MP.1 Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.

MP.2 Reason abstractly and quantitatively.

MP.4 Model with mathematics.

MP.6 Attend to precision.

3.OA.1-4 Represent and solve problems involving multiplication and division.

3.OA.5-6 Understand properties of multiplication and the relationship between multiplication and division.

3.OA.7 Multiply and divide within 100.

3.NBT.1 Use place value understanding and properties of operations to perform multi-digit arithmetic.

3.MD.3-4 Represent and interpret data.

Grade 4

MP.1 Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.

MP.2 Reason abstractly and quantitatively.

MP.4 Model with mathematics.

MP.6 Attend to precision.

4.OA.1-3 Use the four operations with whole numbers to solve problems.

4.OA.5 Gain familiarity with factors and multiples.

4.NBT.4-5 Use place value understanding and properties of operations to perform multi-digit arithmetic.

4.MD.4 Represent and interpret data.

4.G.3 Draw and identify lines and angles, and classify shapes by properties of their lines and angle.

Grade 5

MP.1 Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.

MP.2 Reason abstractly and quantitatively.

MP.4 Model with mathematics.

MP.6 Attend to precision.

5.MD.2 Represent and interpret data.

5.MD.1-2 Graph points on the coordinate plane to solve real-world and mathematical problems.

Next Generation Science Standards/NY State Science Learning Standards 3 - 5

Performance Expectations

4-PS3-2. Make observations to provide evidence that energy can be transferred from place to place by sound, light, heat, and electric currents.

4-PS3-4. Apply scientific ideas to design, test, and refine a device that converts energy from one form to another.

4-PS4-3. Generate and compare multiple solutions that use patterns to transfer information.

3-5-ETS1-1. Define a simple design problem reflecting a need or a want that includes specified criteria for success and constraints on materials, time, or cost.

3-5-ETS1-2. Generate and compare multiple possible solutions to a problem based on how well each is likely to meet the criteria and constraints of the problem.

Example NGSS “Big Idea” and Topic Bundle: How do we move energy and information from place to place?

(4-PS3-2, 4-PS3-4, 4-PS4-3) In this bundle the abstract concept that energy transfer is introduced along the idea of information transfer.

Science and Engineering Practices

Asking questions / defining problems

Hands on coding activities are all about asking questions and figuring out how to achieve a task.

Using math & computational thinking

Coding activities require math and computational thinking.

Constructing explanations/designing solutions; Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information

Challenge extensions and innovation prompts in the *Book of Ideas* - Young Inventors Journal enable students to design and support their solutions to a variety of challenges.

Connections to Nature of Science

Scientific investigations use a variety of methods; Scientific knowledge is based on empirical evidence

Entrepreneur story/presentation and hands on activities illustrate how scientific investigations are conducted and how that information is put to use.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

PS1.A Structure of matter

PS3.A Definitions of energy

PS4.B Electromagnetic radiation

PS4.C Information technologies and instrumentation

Coding puts into practice the theory of electricity and properties of electrons.

ETS1.A: Defining and Delimiting Engineering Problems

ETS1.B: Developing Possible Solutions

ETS1.C: Optimizing the Design Solution

Science and technology based writing prompts, challenge questions and group activities support the three phases of Engineering Design.

The Book of Idea, along with the Design Challenge lesson plan take students through the full cycle of concept to design.

Cross Cutting Concepts

Patterns; Cause and effect; Energy and matter: Flows, cycles, and conservation

Elements of coding dive into dissecting how and why something happens and then to replicate it in code.

Structure and function

Entrepreneurs highlight how the structure and properties of materials can be used to perform specific functions.

Connections to Nature of Science

Science is a way of knowing; Science addresses questions about the natural and material world

Videos and introduction text give support these connections.

Science is a human endeavor

Entrepreneur story and historical timeline highlight the human aspect of science and engineering.

Connections to Engineering, Technology, and Applications of Science

Interdependence of Science, Engineering, and Technology; Influence of Engineering, Technology and Science on Society and the Natural World

Introduction text, historical timeline, entrepreneur story and activities highlight above interactions and interdependencies.

Connections to Common Core State Standards

See previous Common Core Standards section for ELA and Math standards addressed by these activities.

Parts list

Component Name and Description	Approximate Cost	Source
Provided equipment and materials		
BBC micro:bit controllers (10)	\$14 (each)	Click for Adafruit link
Alligator Clip wires (40)	\$20	Click for Amazon link
Micro USB cables (10)	\$20	Click for Amazon link
Educator Guide (1)		
<i>My STEM Stories™</i> notebooks (30)		
<i>My STEM Explorer Notes™</i> notebooks (30)	NA	This unit (electronic versions available on unit website)
Timelines sheets (1 set)		
Introductory investigation data recording sheets (30)		
Common equipment and materials required but not provided		
WiFi and Bluetooth compatible computers, laptops, or tablets.		
USB connection to electronic device (if not available external battery packs can be purchased for the BBC micro:bit.		