Mrs. Chapman AP Computer Science

The BYOB Window / IDE



Script Area where you type your code

The Stage / Editor Area

- The Stage is where the action happens
- You will add objects called sprites to the stage and they will act based on their scripts
- Notice the coordinates in the lower-right



Class / Sprites

A class is a template in programming used to create an object.

A class in SNAP is a Sprite. You choose the sprite class and create an object from it. These are the main elements of your BYOB programs

- Each object created has one or more commands (methods) that determine how the object acts under different circumstances.
- Objects can have different costumes that change their appearance or attribute.
- BYOB provides a bunch of built-in sprites and costumes, or you can design your own.



Creating a Method

- A method is a group of code that performs a certain action.
- Methods control an objects actions.
 - You can also write methods to change the stage area.
- All methods in SNAP must have a trigger or event handler and some operations
- When the event handler happens, the object will perform the commands in order.
 Sequential order one after the other.
- What does this method do?



Blocks

- The different types of blocks are listed in the upper left of the BYOB window
 - "Motion" blocks cause objects to move
 - "Looks" blocks change an object's appearance
 - Etc.
- Each block corresponds to one "action"
- Notice the shapes!
- When a script runs, the actions occur in the order in which the blocks appear in the script.



Using blocks to create methods

- Exercise: Write an algorithm to do the following:
 - Move the sprite 25 steps,
 - Have the sprite say your name for 3 seconds
 - Turn the sprite around and move it back where it came from
 - Have the sprite say "I love BYOB!" for 5 seconds

Drawing

- Blocks in the Pen category allow your sprites to draw things on the stage
- The per down on the stage. The per up block picks the pen up.
 - When a sprite's pen is down, moving will cause it to draw.
- You can also change the pen's color, size, or shade.

Drawing

- Exercise 1: Write an algorithm to make your sprite draw a square with 50 step sides.
- Exercise 2: Once you've done that, write an algorithm to draw two squares next to each other
 - The squares should not be connected by a line

Triggers/Controls

- Triggers tell an object to start executing
 There are four types of triggers:
 - When green flag is clicked
 - When I am clicked
 - When <some key> is pressed
 - When I receive a message
 - more on messages later

Triggers/Controls

Exercise: Rewrite your square drawing algorithm to draw a square whenever the space bar is pressed. Clear the screen before each new square.

Threads

- You can build multiple scripts in the script area for any sprite (or the stage)
- All these scripts run *at the same time* (assuming their triggers occur)
 Each script is called a "thread"



Exercise: Write scripts to allow the user to move a sprite around the stage with the arrow keys.

Comments

If you right-click on the script area, you get an option to "add comment"

clean up save picture of scripts add comment undo last drop make a block

Comments are used to describe what's going on in the code. In BYOB, they look like this:
They do not execute.

Comments

BYOB comments can be attached to blocks to indicate to what they are referring:



Comments

You should use comments to:

- Describe the basic, high-level behavior of any script
- Explain anything potentially unclear or tricky
- Explain why you chose to do something a certain way if there were multiple options

Etc.

Get in the habit of using comments now. You'll be graded on them (especially in Java)!

Control Flow

- The order in which blocks are executed is called the "control flow" of the script
 - So far all our scripts have just executed blocks in the order given
- Consider our script to draw a square
 - Notice all the repeated code
 - Wouldn't it be nice if there were a way to simplify this?





- Loops cause the object to repeat a certain set of commands multiple times without having to repeat the blocks
- Loop blocks in SNAP have the symbol at their bottom right
- This indicates that when the end of the loop is hit, the next block executed is back at the beginning
 There are several types of loops in SNAP:





- Exercise 1: Rewrite the script to draw a square using loops. Try not to repeat any code.
- Exercise 2: Now rewrite the script to draw two squares next to each other using loops. Again, try not to repeat code.
 - This is tricky!

Variables

- Thought exercise: How can we make objects move at different "speeds"?
- Variables allow us to store data and modify or retrieve it later
- Check out the Variables category
- Look around for built-in variables
 - What shape are variable blocks?

Variables

- When we click "Make a variable" we get a dialog box
- The name can be anything you want



- For all sprites" means all sprites/objects will be able to see and edit the variable. This is a global variable.
 - Why might this be useful? Why might it be dangerous?
- For this sprite only" means only the current sprite can see and edit it. This is a local variable.



- You can ask the user for input using wattom.com
- The response is stored in
 - Note that is just a built-in variable
- Often, you'll be storing the input in a variable for later use

Input

- Exercise 1: Write an algorithm to do the following:
 - Ask the user for a number between 1 and 10
 - Draw that many squares
- Exercise 2: Write an algorithm to do the following:
 - Ask the user for a number between 1 and 10
 - Ask the user for a number between 1 and 255
 - Draw the first number of squares with the pen color set to the second number

Doing Arithmetic

- So far, we've only used simple numbers
- It would probably be nice if we could do some math
- Check out the Operators category
 - The first four blocks are your basic arithmetic operators
 - At the bottom are some more useful operations
 - As always, notice the shapes- where can we use these blocks?

Doing Arithmetic

- Exercise: Write an algorithm to do the following:
 - Ask the user for a number between 1 and 5
 - Draw twice that many squares

Booleans

See the hexagon-shaped hole in What goes there?



- Look around for blocks with that shape. What does it look like they do?
- Hexagon-shaped blocks represent Boolean expressions
 - Named after 19th century English mathematician George Boole
- Boolean expressions evaluate to either true or false



Conditions

Boolean expressions are used in conditions



- Conditions control whether or not certain blocks are executed
 - The blocks inside of an "if" are executed if and only if the condition is true
 - The blocks inside of an "else" are executed if and only if the condition is false
- Look at the "Sensing" category for lots of interesting things you can test

Conditional Loops

You can also use conditions in loops

- is like forever, but the body only executes when the condition is true
- Will stop then start again if things change



loops until the condition is true, then

moves on

Play with these, as they can be quite useful

Boolean Operators

Boolean expressions can be combined in certain ways



- An and expression is true when **both** parts are true
- An or expression is true is when at least one part is true
- A not expression is true when the component expression is false

Boolean Operators

Truth Tables:

AND	т	F
т	т	F
F	F	F

OR	т	F
т	т	т
F	т	F



Conditions/Booleans

- *Exercise 1: Write an algorithm to do the following:*
 - Generate a random number between 1 and 10
 - Draw a red square if the number is less than 6
 - Draw a blue square if the number is 6 or greater
- Exercise 2: Write an algorithm to do the following:
 - Generate two random numbers between 1 and 10
 - If both are less than 6, draw a red square
 - If both are 6 or greater, draw a blue square
 - Otherwise, draw a purple square

Events

- Sprites can cause each other to act in certain ways by using broadcast and when I receive and when I receive and when I receive a statement of the statement
- This sends out a message which can be picked up by other objects
- These messages are called events
- Events have unique names, and any sprite can broadcast or listen for any event

Events

Exercise: Implement "Marco Polo"

- Create one object at the center of the stage
- Create another object at a random location and hide it
- The arrow keys control the motion of the first object
- When space is pressed, the first object should say "Marco" after which the second sprite should briefly show itself and say "Polo"
- If the first sprite says "Marco" when it is touching the second, the second sprite should appear and say "Found me!"