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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 and Android tablets. 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, you'll find: Step-by-step, easy-to-follow directions Ways to connect the activity with literacy and math concepts Tips for grown-ups and teachers Creative challenges to take the learning further By the end of the book, kids will be ready for all sorts of new programming adventures!

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (22 customer reviews)

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Age Range: 5 and up

Grade Level: 2 - 5

Customer Reviews

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).

Length: 3:52 Mins

This is a well-done guidebook to help parents, siblings, teachers, friends and other family members get up to speed quickly with ScratchJr. As someone who already knows and loves Scratch, I was intrigued to see how the essence of Scratch is retained, while providing a simple interface and fewer options. ScratchJr is by no means limited, though. There's tons of avenues for creative expression and coding still available with ScratchJr.

This book combines the best of both worlds. It offers kids a physical book that they can read together with a parent or older sibling as well as inspires their creative imaginations about ways to do productive things using a computer. It's important to know upfront, however, that you will need to have a tablet or iPad already on hand in order to download the ScratchJr program, which is a free download. And this book also teaches both parents and kids not to jump ahead when learning something new, as fully understanding and following the directions in chapter one is essential to succeeding with the instructions in the following chapters. We applaud The Official ScratchJr. Book for making learning fun -- who know what future computer programmers and designers will be inspired by its pages!

My 5 - year-old daughter absolutely loves Scratch Junior, and this book has really given us some good tips and fun examples to use in our projects. The book is well-written and engaging, and she has no problem following along. She's able to draw her own characters, record dialog, and move things around to create her own mini movies. Having to sequence the action has really helped with her analytical skills. She is so proud of her work, and it's been fun to see her creations.

I've been using Scratch in the classroom with 3rd-5th graders for the past couple of years, to great results. I've been looking for something to do with the other, younger students as well, and this year started them on Code.org's Conde Studio, also with good results. But EVERYONE wants to do Scratch. And now they can. Scratch Jr. is particularly geared toward children who either have not yet

learned to read or who are early readers. Rather than words, the interface focuses on pictures, including arrows to indicate direction. It's not quite as complex as Scratch, but it's great to use to get students' feet wet. And now there's a great book I can use to help introduce it to them. This is a wonderful resource for parents who want to introduce their children to coding at an early age, as well as teachers who are wanting to start teaching computational thinking. It's easy to use - I can see my second graders being able to use the book directly, or with minimal help. The only real drawback is that ScratchJr requires the use of iPads, which are in short supply at my school.

Scratch Programming Language is the perfect jumping off point to introduce your kids to making computer games, not just playing them. Scratch users are introduced to event-driven programming. This Official ScratchJr Book is a companion to this coding which allows the parents and teachers to walk their kids through the initial steps of connecting blocks which will allow the characters to move, jump, and dance. The book is very well laid out with step-by-step directions that include pictures and pointers. What you see in the book is what you will see on your screen. There are lots of tips for the oldsters to use with the youngsters and lots of challenges to move the learning beyond this primer. I volunteer at the local library and several times a year they have a tutor come in to teach the kids the concept of Scratch Coding. These classes are always filled and you can see the happy and rewarded looks on the kids' faces as the class progresses and you see them getting it.

Got this book in and my kids were silent for HOURS while they were playing around and learning to code. This is a great beginning code book for parents that are tired of their kids just playing minecraft 24/7 without actually learning much about coding. My kids were proud to show off their accomplishments to me and were just so proud of themselves. This book makes it easier to use ScratchJr. Highly recommended.

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