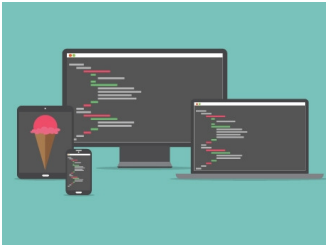


CODING IN THE CLASSROOM

Teach Your Kids to Code: 6 Beginner's Resources for Parents

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By Matt Davis, Freelance Contributor at Edutopia



Introducing computer programming to your kids can be a challenge, especially for those who aren't familiar with the nuances of code. Fortunately, in the last few years, a number of apps, software, and guides have been produced that make the often-complex subject of computer coding easy to grasp for young learners. So where to begin? These are a few resources that parents can share with their kids to help them start learning about programming.

- **Programming Tutorials From Made With Code by Google** (<https://www.madewithcode.com>) : Google's Made With Code project has a mission of encouraging girls to pursue careers in computer science. The Made With Code projects (<https://www.madewithcode.com/projects>) are easy to follow, and if your kids are completely new to coding, don't fret. There's something for both intermediate and beginning coders. Plus, there are even more tutorials in the Resources section (<https://www.madewithcode.com/resources>) with new offerings released periodically.
- **Resources for Parents From MIT Media Lab's Scratch Team** (<http://scratch.mit.edu/parents/>) : Scratch is one of the most popular coding tools for kids, and it's designed to help students with little to no coding experience dive headfirst into programming. Essentially, the software lets students create animations and stories with building blocks that mimic the structure of computer code. Luckily, the team behind the software has made it easy for beginners. There's a wonderful web-based beginners' guide (http://scratch.mit.edu/projects/editor/?tip_bar=getStarted) that will help students get started, or you can download a PDF version.
- **Tynker's Hour of Code Free Activities** (<https://www.tynker.com/hour-of-code/>) : Tynker is a fun, intuitive suite of games that make it easy for kids to learn basic "computational thinking and programming skills." Their Hour of Code feature is a great starting point for jumping into all that the site has to offer. Plus, be sure to check out the Parents section (<https://www.tynker.com/>) for ideas and tips to get started.

- Lessons and Tutorials From Code.org (<http://code.org/learn>) : Code.org was launched in 2013 to advocate for wider access to computer science learning in schools and for underrepresented students of color. In addition to their advocacy efforts, Code.org has posted several useful lessons that are great to share with your kids. Aside from popular lessons like K-8 Introduction to Computer Science (<http://learn.code.org/s/1/level/1>) , there are links to informative tutorials (<http://code.org/learn/beyond>) from a variety of sources.
- Best Apps and Websites for Learning Programming and Coding (<https://www.graphite.org/top-picks/best-apps-and-websites-for-learning-programming-and-coding>) : This resource from Common Sense Media, featured on their Graphite platform, provides insightful reviews of popular programming tools. All of the reviews on the site are by teachers, and they're based on ease of use, quality, and engagement, among other criteria.
- EdSurge Guide: Teaching Kids to Code (<https://www.edsurge.com/guide/teaching-kids-to-code>) : EdSurge produced this comprehensive guide for parents. It's a trove of interesting and useful articles like "Teaching Coding: Where Do You Start?" (<https://www.edsurge.com/n/2013-03-13-teaching-coding-where-do-you-start>) " The guide also features information for more than 50 tools that you can use with your kids.

Inspiring Articles About Kids Learning to Code

Still looking for some ideas? Here are a few more sources about the benefits of learning coding skills to help your kids start programming:

- How and Why to Teach Your Kids to Code (<http://lifelife.com/how-and-why-to-teach-your-kids-to-code-510588878>) by Melanie Pinola via Lifelife (<http://lifelife.com>)
- 5 Reasons to Teach Kids to Code (<https://www.kodable.com/infographic>) via Kodable (<https://www.kodable.com>)
- The Educator's Guide to Teaching HTML (<http://educatorlabs.org/lesson-plans/the-educators-guide-to-teaching-html/>) from Educator Labs (<http://educatorlabs.org>)
- Teaching Kids Programming with Khan Academy (<http://viget.com/extend/teaching-kids-programming-with-khan-academy>) by Patrick Reagan via Viget (<http://viget.com>)
- Upgrade Your Brain: Programming Resources for Coding Newbies (<http://thenextweb.com/dd/2014/03/23/upgrade-brain-programming-resources-coding-newbies/>) by Adam Benzion via The Next Web (<http://thenextweb.com>)
- Teach Your Kids (And Yourself) How to Code with These iPad Apps (<http://www.macworld.com/article/2922335/teach-your-kids-and-yourself-how-to-code-with-these-ipad-apps.html>) by Derek Walter via Macworld (<http://www.macworld.com>)

Coding Organizations for Kids

For the non-coding parents, it can be difficult to know where to begin. Fortunately, there are a variety of organizations committed to teaching kids programming skills. These organizations offer opportunities and resources for getting your children involved:

- Teaching Kids Programming (<http://teachingkidsprogramming.org/?tl=ja>)
- MIT App Inventor (<http://appinventor.mit.edu/>)
- Hour of Code (<https://hourofcode.com/us>)
- Code.org (<https://code.org/>)
- Black Girls Code (<http://www.blackgirlscode.org/>)
- CoderDojo (<https://coderdojo.com/>)
- CSUnplugged (<http://csunplugged.org/>)

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