



Vela Middle School

801 S. Palm Blvd. Harlingen, TX 78552
(956) 427-3479

PLTW: Computer Science: Innovators & Makers Syllabus

Course Overview:

PLTW Computer Science Innovators & Makers course is to teach middle schoolers how to program for the physical world by blending hardware design and software development, enabling them to create tangible, shareable projects. Students develop foundational computer science skills, including problem-solving, computational thinking, and collaboration, through hands-on activities like creating physical computing devices and interactive systems such as wearables or art installations.

Course Units:

Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

- **Lesson 1: The Blink**
 - Lesson 1.1: The Brain
 - Lesson 1.2: What To Do
 - Lesson 1.3: How to Do It
 - Lesson 1.4: Crush the Bug
 - Lesson 1.5: The Blinking Message
 - **Lesson 2: In and Outs**
 - Lesson 2.1: Need Input
 - Lesson 2.2: Responding Output
 - Lesson 2.3: Get Connected
 - Lesson 2.4: Secrets and Safes
 - **Lesson 3: Program the Physical World**
 - Lesson 3.1: Clean Up Your Code
 - Lesson 3.2: Interactions
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Grading Policy:

Your grade in this course is a reflection of your effort, participation, and mastery of the TEKS.

- **75% Daily Assignments & Participation**
- **25% Projects, & Presentations**

Late Work Policy: Late work will be accepted for a reduced grade up to one week after the due date, unless prior arrangements have been made.

Classroom Expectations:

To ensure a productive and respectful learning environment for everyone, you are expected to:

- **Be Prepared:** Come to class on time, in your assigned seat with a charged chromebook
 - **Be Respectful:** Listen to the teacher and ask questions if you don't understand
 - **Be Engaged:** Actively collaborate in class discussions and activities.
 - **Be Responsible:** Take ownership of your learning and strive for your personal best.
 - **Absolutely no cell phones**, smart watches, or any other electronic devices.
 - **Gum and Food Not allowed** in class
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Please sign and return to your teacher.

I have read and understood the syllabus for the Computer Science: Innovators & Makers course.

Student Name (Print): _____

Student Signature: _____ **Period:** _____

Parent Signature: _____ **Date:** _____