

Coders' Corner Ideas

Days and Times: Saturday Feb 22 from 11:30-16:30

Sunday Feb 23 from 11:30-15:00

Location: Santa Monica B

Concept: A friendly, non-threatening place for people of all ages to get acquainted with coding and discover the fun of making something with code. All ages and levels welcome!

Equipment: Tables and chairs arranged around the perimeter of the room with XO laptops for Scratch and Pippy(an intro to Linux). a couple of PC laptops for internet for Code Academy for HTML or HTML5.

Needs: power bars, extension cords, large monitor, a few more PCs (laptops or netbooks)

Kenneth Wyrick:

* khan academy has computer programming videos we could use in our Coders' Corner

* the other coders corner app that i propose is html5 possibly with

<http://turnkeylinux.org/sencha>

Tony Anderson:

*I have three volumes on Python programming loaded on the schoolserver (creative commons would you believe). The books use IDLE rather than Pippy. Use of IDLE requires some understanding of the file system; however, I think that can be made simple (use /home/olpc/Documents, for example). The nice thing about the books (aside from CC) is that they show a complete program and then explain each line. The first book is game programming (text games), the second is game programming using pygame for graphics and animation, and the third is essentially a repeat of the first except the programs all relate to secret codes (creating and hacking). Unfortunately, a lot of editing will be needed to make this really viable.

* I also have a set of lessons on web coding (html5 and css) which are on the web as pockethtml. Naturally, the beauty of web programming is the instant feedback - the programmer can see the results in a browser. There are also excellent debugging tools in Chrome and Firefox (sadly, none in the Browse activity).

Caryl Bigenho:

- * Maybe we can make up some sort of certificate to give people who complete a small project
- * Could we have a “makers’ corner” in the Coders’ Corner where we start a project that different people can contribute to and hopefully we could end up with a finished project for all to share at the end? Maybe a simple Sugar App (use James Simmons Floss Book, Make Your Own Sugar Activity). Or a simple Android app?
- * Codecademy has some very nice little projects (originally for the Google hour of code) that can be completed by a beginner in 30 minutes or less. Example:
<http://www.codecademy.com/learn>

James:

I’ve taught Scratch before. It’s easy and we can do it on any computer or on an XO.

Other websites I’ve used:

www.codeavengers.com
<http://codecombat.com/>