

## It is Possible For Parents To Teach Their Kids To Code Even If They Don't Know How To Code Themselves.

## How To Get Started.



Many of you might be thinking, “Coding? I wasn’t giving any thought to coding even before now. I don’t have any background knowledge about it and even if I do, how do I go about teaching my kids to code?” If that sounds like your thought, there is no need to be alarmed. As it is, parents do not need an extensive programming background to teach their kids to code. The secret about teaching coding to kids is to teach programming as a creative activity.

It is rightly said that “whatever is worth doing at all, is worth doing well; and nothing can be done well without attention”, hence, coding for kids is never an easy undertaking. Aside from getting your kids’ full attention, you have to overcome communication barriers and teach complex lines of codes in the simplest way possible. You need to think outside the box so that you can get your kids excited about coding.

Teaching coding to kids will give them a skill for life and there are many different programming language tools to aid that. Some of these tools are developed as open-source and free ones that have reached millions of kids around the world.

Let's dive into how to get started:

## **Understand What Coding Is**

When embarking on a new journey, it is necessary to know what that journey entails and in that light, you will have a clear sense of direction. So what is coding? Simply put, coding is instructing a computer to carry out specific actions through step-by-step commands. Coding is used to tell apps to run on smartphones and to execute games. Coding powers much of what your kids interact with through their laptops, on their visited websites and in their social media.

Some people say computers are smart, but without code, they would sit lifeless. It is the code that brings everything to life and the computer is simply an obedient rule-follower.

## **Spark Up Interest In Your Kids**

After understanding what coding is, the next thing is to make your kids interested in coding. One of the most common mistakes parents often make is that they immediately jump to teaching the basics and fundamentals without having to check if their kids have the interest. While this information is vital when it comes to learning how to code, it does not give kids enough room to process and absorb all the information that they are receiving. With that in mind, you need to make your kids interested in learning first. This way, they would not only learn to code, but they would also learn to love the subject and even the learning process.

One of the ways to spark up interest in your kids is to suggest fun activities that don't involve typing codes. [LEGO®](#) and [WeDo](#) can engage kids and stir in them the interest to learn to code.

## **Teach The Basics Differently**

You can do away with the tech jargon if you are just teaching them the basics and fundamentals of coding. If your kids are just starting in their learning journey, then you can simply find alternative ways to teach them the basics and make them excited to learn more about coding.

[Unplugged activities](#) go a long way in helping kids to understand the basics. Unplugged activities are tasks that take place away from the computer screen in order to model key concepts in different ways.

The secret to teaching kids how to code has already been cracked by many [coding for kids programs and courses](#). There are now several coding apps, games, video explainers, software toys and other educational materials that you can use to teach your kids. However, you have to be clear on which approach works for your kids.

## **Employ Block-Based Coding**

Once your kids finish learning all the basics and fundamentals of coding, it is time to start developing their critical and computational thinking. You can do this by simply utilizing programs like [Scratch or Blockly](#). These [block-based programs](#) are the most effective and

convenient way to teach your kids how coding works. Rather than have them memorize lines of codes or grasp the complex syntax, you can simply use applications or programs.

### **Kick-Start With Small Fun Tasks or Projects**

Learning how to code is a continuous undertaking and it is best to start with [simple coding projects](#) and gradually introduce more difficult tasks as your kids' coding skills develop. Engaging kids in fun projects are great for kids who want to take steps towards learning programming. Thirty minutes to one hour of coding per day is enough to continuously enhance their skills and keep their interest on the high. Keep in mind that learning does not stop at the end of every learning session. Kids should be able to apply the information they have learned.

### **Get The Help Of Experts**

As parents you are going to encounter some time of roadblocks when it comes to teaching kids to code. It might be an advanced concept or difficulty keeping your kids engaged and motivated to continue. At this point, it is advisable to get the help of experts.