

Autobiographical Programming Sketch

Mini-project

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In general, programming is one of my most favorite things to do in my free time. This is because programming allows me to express my creativity as well as my deep thinking skills. Before coming to the apprenticeship program, I had a little bit of programming experience, to begin with. I always have had some kind of interest in programming ever since I was very little, as I always saw my father program for his job. My father first introduced me to programming when I was around 6 or 7 years old. He exposed me to the Scratch program, developed by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. To me, I saw it as a bunch of colorful blocks that had words like “move 10 steps,” “when space is pressed”, etc. During the summer I always would make random codes using these blocks and over the years, I got better and better. I went from making animations to building racing and maze games. A couple of years ago, I attended my first workshop at Shodor. I signed up for an HTML class at the time, because I had a huge interest in programming, and I thought that the HTML workshop was the best fit for me. During the workshop, I was introduced to many different concepts that I use today for the Apprenticeship program, like titles, sections, paragraphs, and lists. This workshop made me want to learn more about HTML and in the following weeks after the workshop, I self-taught myself a lot of HTML knowledge and somewhat learned how to use CSS with the HTML. However, when school started that Fall, I pretty much forgot everything I learned in the workshop, and I had not touched HTML until the Apprenticeship started. This past year, I have gotten into animating using the Blender software. I did this because I wanted to combine my interests in programming as well as visual design. Also, I planned to start an animation club in my school, however, I got carried away with my classes in the first semester. Overall, this prior experience allows me to understand the concepts of the JavaScript programming we do during the meetings in Shodor. Even though I do not know the basics of any programming language, my understanding of simple programming concepts allows me to interpret and understand the programming we do at Shodor better.