

Scratch for the Inclusive Classroom



Inclusive teaching and learning practices are instrumental in creating and maintaining a learning environment in which:

- **all participants are fully engaged and respected.**
- **all participants are open to ideas, perspectives, and ways of thinking that are distinct from their own.**

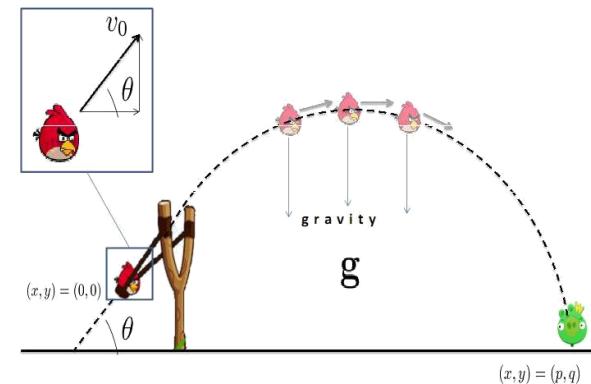
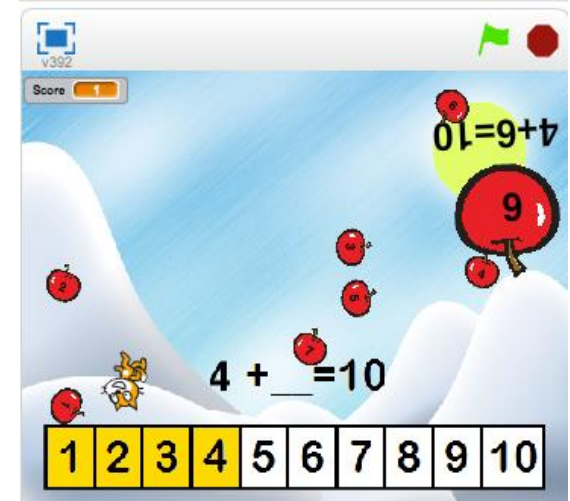


What is Scratch?

- Free **visual programming language** and **programming environment**.
- Project of the Lifelong Kindergarten Group at the **MIT Media Lab**.
- Designed **especially for ages 8 to 16**, but is used by people of **all ages**.
- An **engaging tool** for **children** of any learning style.
- Can be **easily personalized** by children with **their own media content**.
They can add their own photos, recorded voices or sounds and graphics.
- Aims to promote **cooperation through online communities**.
- Scratch 3 is **available online** and as an **offline application** for :
 - Windows - MacOS

Scratch in Education

- Scratch enables teachers and pupils to make:
 - Educational games
 - Simulations of science experiments
 - Animation stories for a school subject
- Cultivates pupils' ability to:
 - think creatively
 - reason systematically
 - work collaboratively
- Encourages
 - Sharing, reuse and combination of code
 - Communication in a global community
 - There is also a special community for education ([ScratchEd](#)) with lesson plans and other relative information.



Scratch for the Inclusive Classroom

Scratch provides a friendly environment which:

- Helps **pupils** to:
 - **easily adapt** to their **learning space**.
 - get **immediate interaction** of their **actions** or **program changes**.
- Provides **teachers** with the ability to:
 - **easily program** engaging applications for their pupils
 - keep their classroom **motivated** by using
 - Sounds
 - Animations
 - Images
 - Texts



Scratch Environment

Costumes (different appearances of the same sprite)

Sounds

default sprite

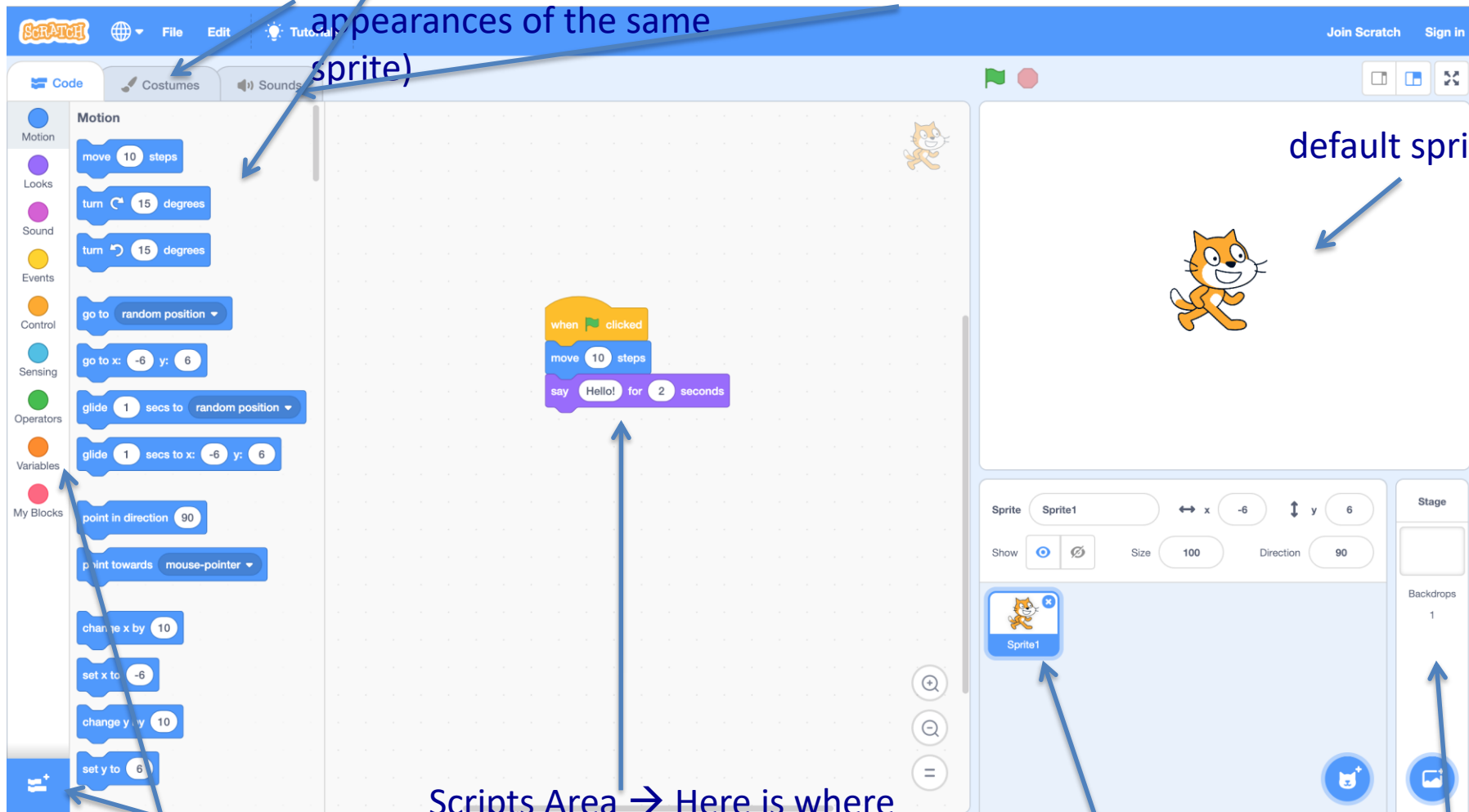
Scripts Area → Here is where command blocks are put

More groups (Extensions)

Active sprites

Stage
(Background)

Groups of commands



Sprite Selection

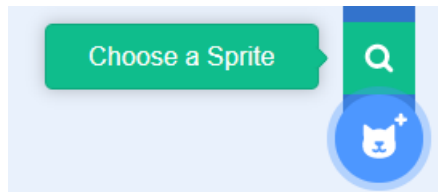
- A **sprite** is a small graphic that can execute commands.
- One or more sprites can be:

- **Drawn** or

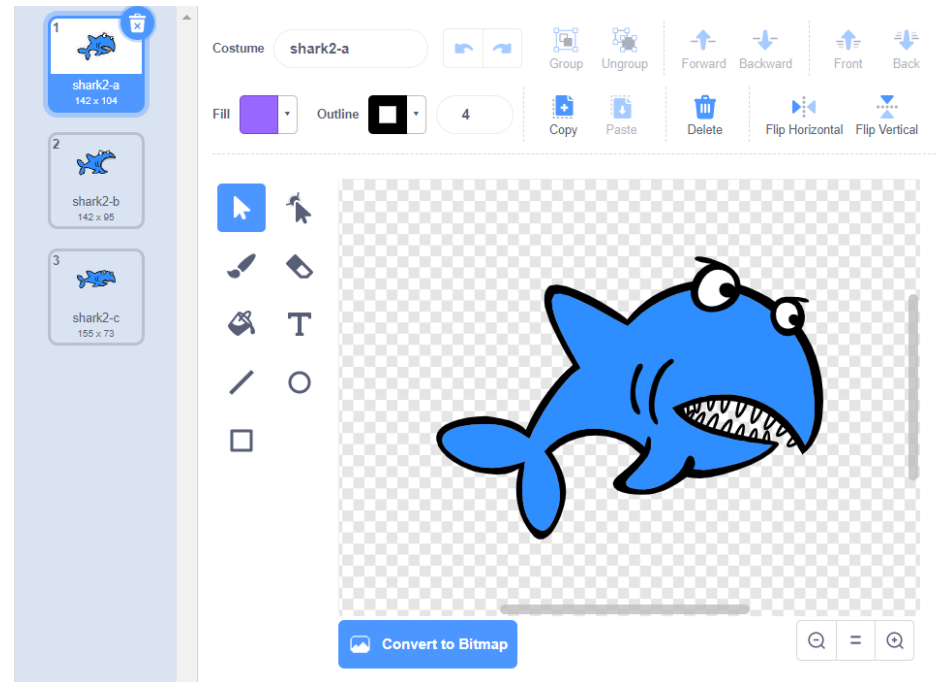
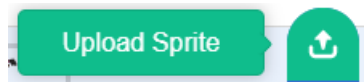


- **Introduced from:**

- **A Scratch library**



- **A file**

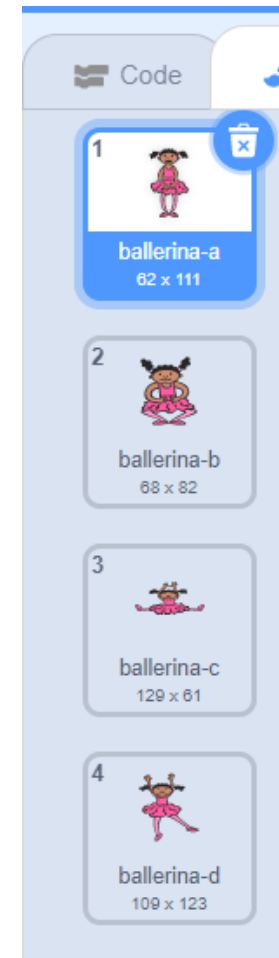


Sprite Selection

Sprite Costumes

- A **sprite** has a set of different **costumes** (appearances).
- One or more **costumes** can be:
 - Drawn
 - Introduced from:
 - A Scratch library
 - A file

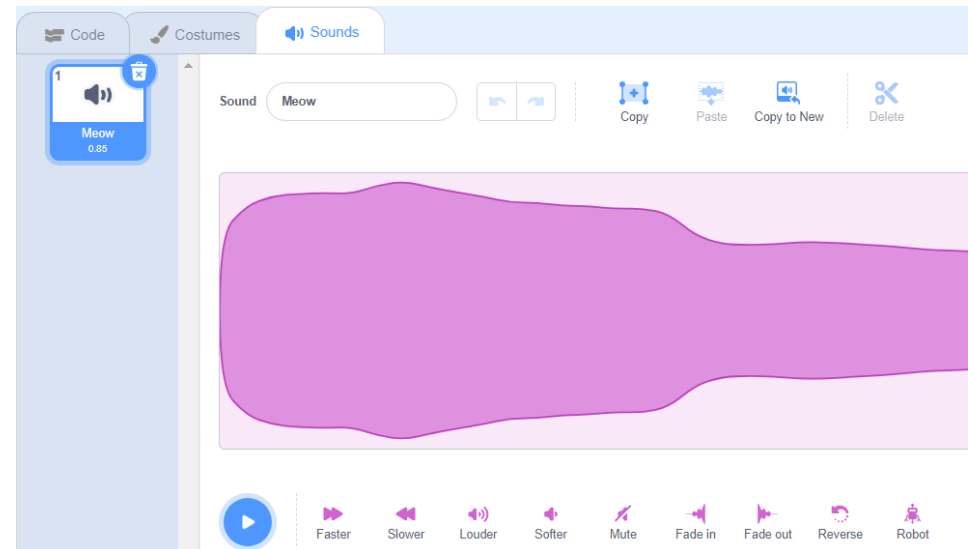
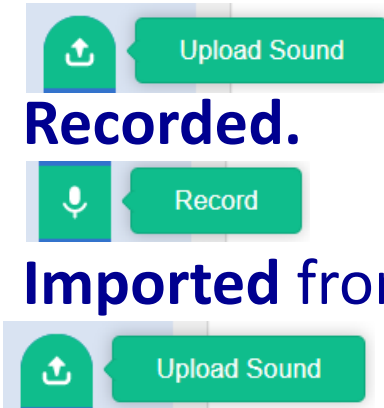
Every time you select a sprite, you have to check that its **costumes** have the form you need.



Sprite Selection

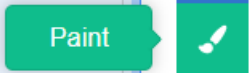

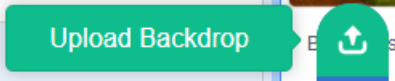
Sounds, Size

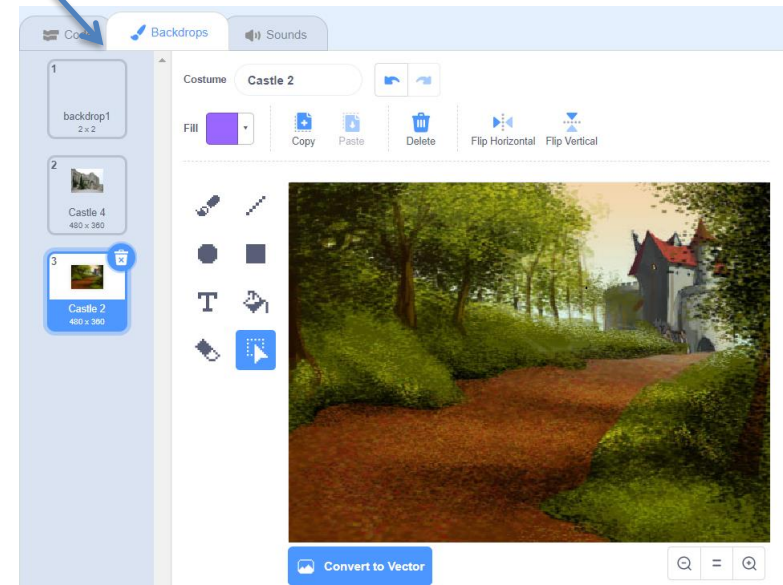
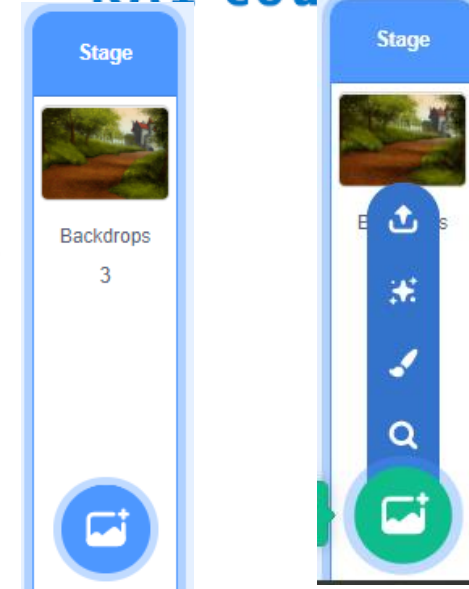
- A sprite may also have been **loaded** with a **set of sounds**.
- A sound can be :
 - **Loaded** from a **library**.
 - **Recorded**.
 - **Imported** from an **audio file**.



Check that you have loaded **all** the sounds that the **sprite** is **supposed to make**.

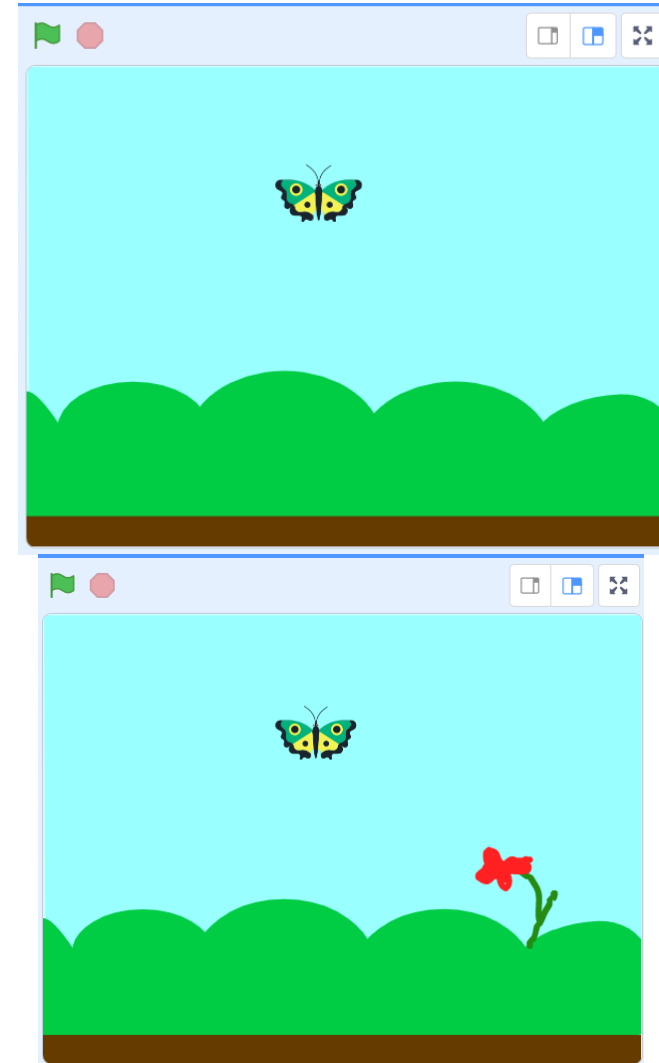
Setting the background

- Click on **Stage**
- Select the "**Backdrops**" tab
- Each **backdrop** is a **different appearance (look)** of the Stage
- A backdrop can be:
 - **Drawn** 
 - **Added from Scratch library** 
 - **Imported from a file** 
 - We can have **more than one backdrops**, if a change of the scene is necessary to be made in the application i.e. in a game.
- A backdrop can be **modified**.



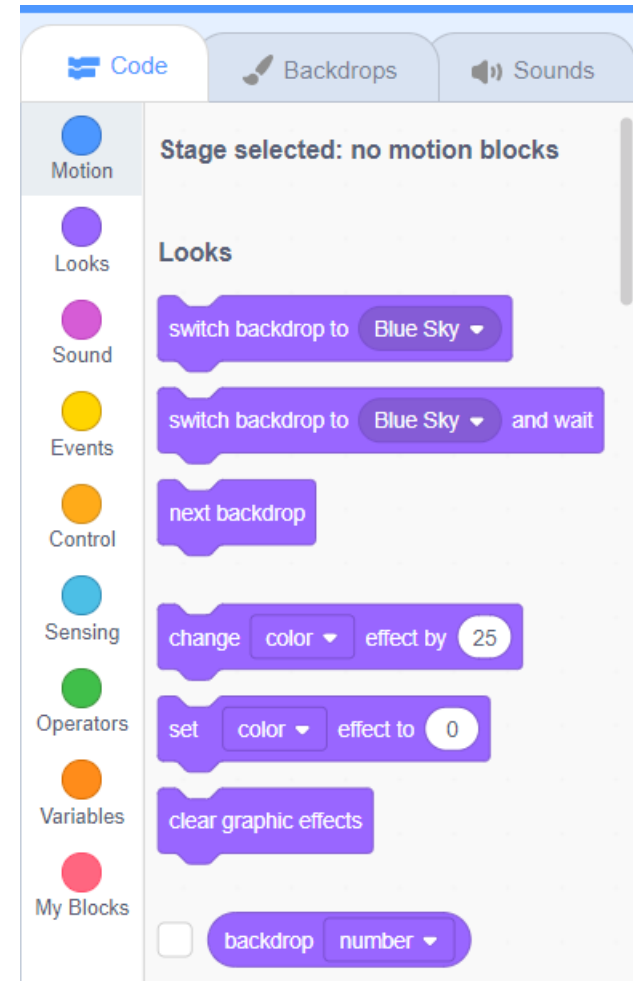
Exercise 1

- Choose the appropriate backdrop and sprite so that the screen of your application will look like this.
- How could we then modify the backdrop in order to look like this?



Command blocks






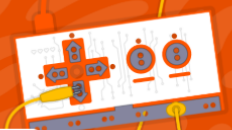
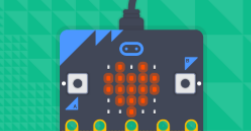




- Various **types of blocks** associated with:
 - **Motion**
 - **Looks**
 - **Sound**
 - **Events**
 - **Control**
 - **Sensing** etc...
- When a **sprite** is selected, **all** types of blocks are **available**.
- When **the stage** is selected, **neither motion nor pen blocks** are available.



Command blocks

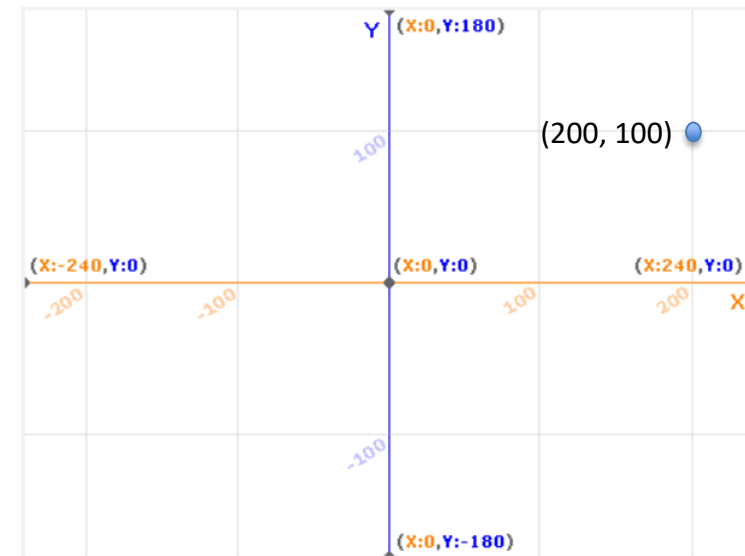
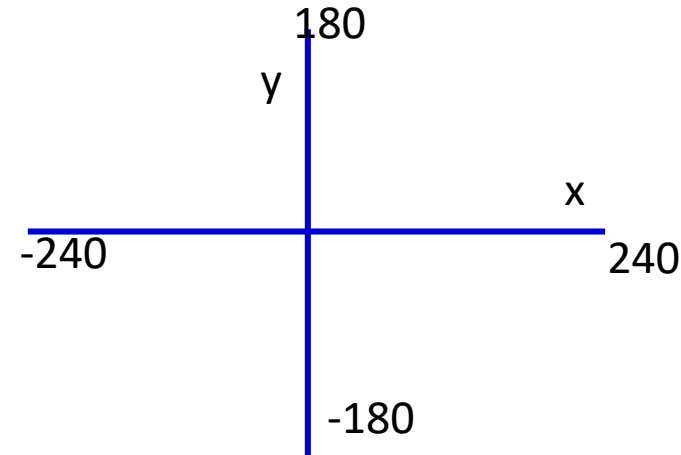
You can **add more command blocks** through **extensions** button.



 <p>Music Play instruments and drums.</p>	 <p>Pen Draw with your sprites.</p>	 <p>Video Sensing Sense motion with the camera.</p>	 <p>Text to Speech Make your projects talk.</p> <p>Requires 📶</p> <p>Collaboration with Amazon Web Services</p>	 <p>Translate Translate text into many languages.</p> <p>Requires 📶</p> <p>Collaboration with Google</p>	 <p>Makey Makey Make anything into a key.</p> <p>Collaboration with JoyLabz</p>
 <p>micro:bit Connect your projects with the world.</p> <p>Requires 📶</p> <p>Collaboration with micro:bit</p>	 <p>LEGO MINDSTORMS EV3 Build interactive robots and more.</p> <p>Requires 📶</p> <p>Collaboration with LEGO</p>	 <p>LEGO BOOST Bring robotic creations to life.</p> <p>Requires 📶</p> <p>Collaboration with LEGO</p>	 <p>LEGO Education WeDo 2.0 Build with motors and sensors.</p> <p>Requires 📶</p> <p>Collaboration with LEGO</p>	 <p>Go Direct Force & Acceleration Sense push, pull, motion, and spin.</p> <p>Requires 📶</p> <p>Collaboration with Vernier</p>	

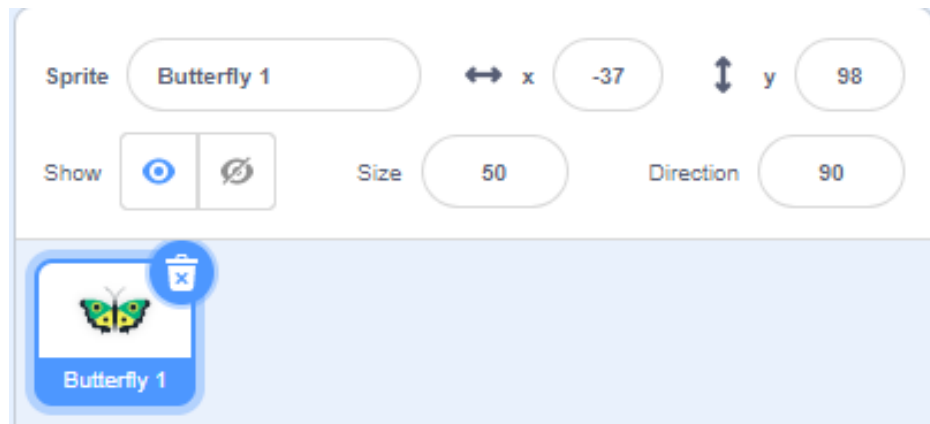
Scratch Stage coordinates

- The stage is 480 pixels wide and 360 pixels high.
- Every **point** is **defined** by its **X-Y coordinates**. **X coordinate** get values in the range **[-240, 240]** and **Y coordinate** gets values in the range **[-180, 180]**.
- The **center** of the stage has **(0,0)** X-Y coordinates.
- When we refer to a **point a sprite** should **move to**, we actually mean that its **center** should reach that point.



Sprite Information

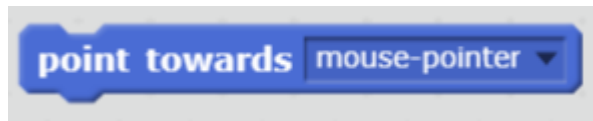
- The following information about the sprite is available:
 - The **x-y coordinates** of its **centre** .
 - Its **direction**.
 - Its **size**.
 - If it is meant to be **visible** when the application starts.



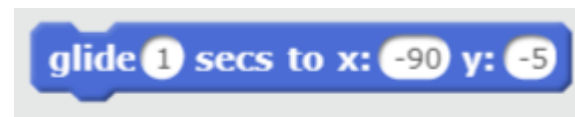
- A **sprite** can:
 - **Move a number of steps** (pixels) in the specified direction



- **Point towards the mouse pointer or another sprite.**

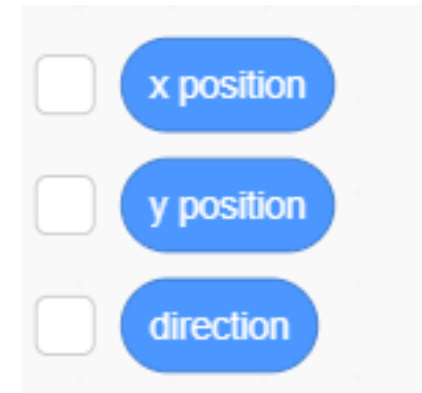
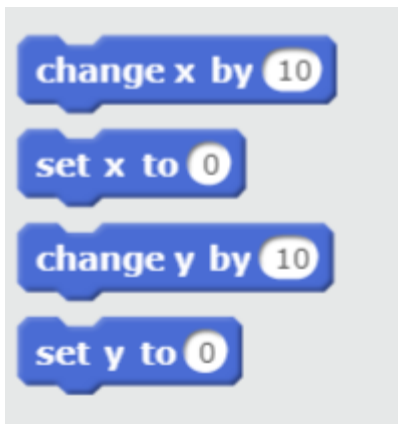


- **Move immediately** to a point or **glide** to a point within a specified time.

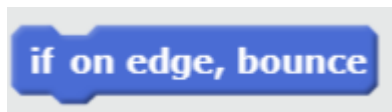


Motion blocks

- A sprite can:
 - Change its coordinates.



- Bounce on stage edges (mind the rotation style!)



- We can see how **direction** and the **coordinates** of a sprite **change** while it **moves** by **ticking the appropriate boxes**.

Exercise 2

Extend Exercise 1 as follows:

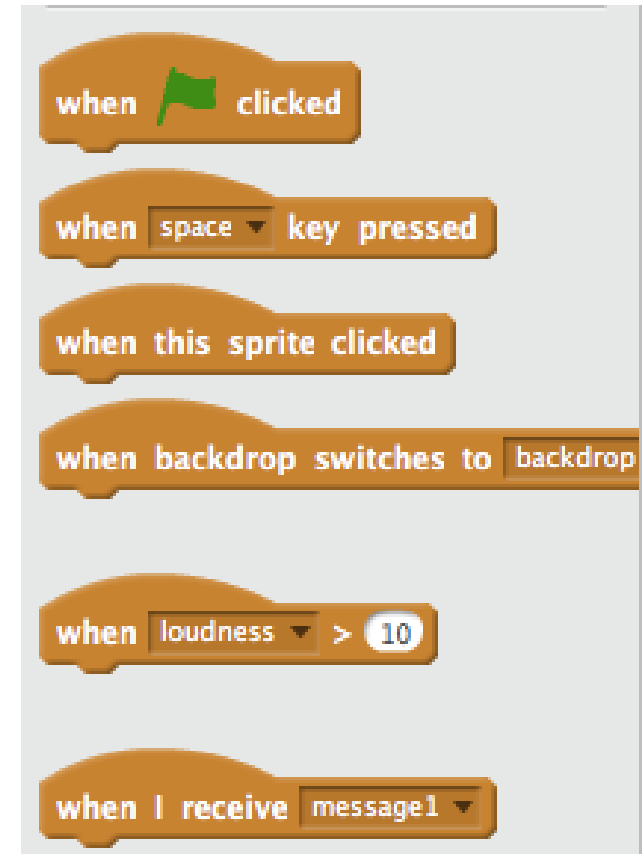
Provide the appropriate blocks of commands so that the butterfly

1. Points in direction of 90° (right)
2. Goes initially to point (0,0)
3. Glides to the flower in 2 seconds

Hint: To find the x-y coordinates of the flower, position the sprite (the butterfly) over the flower. From the sprite information, write down the x-y coordinates.

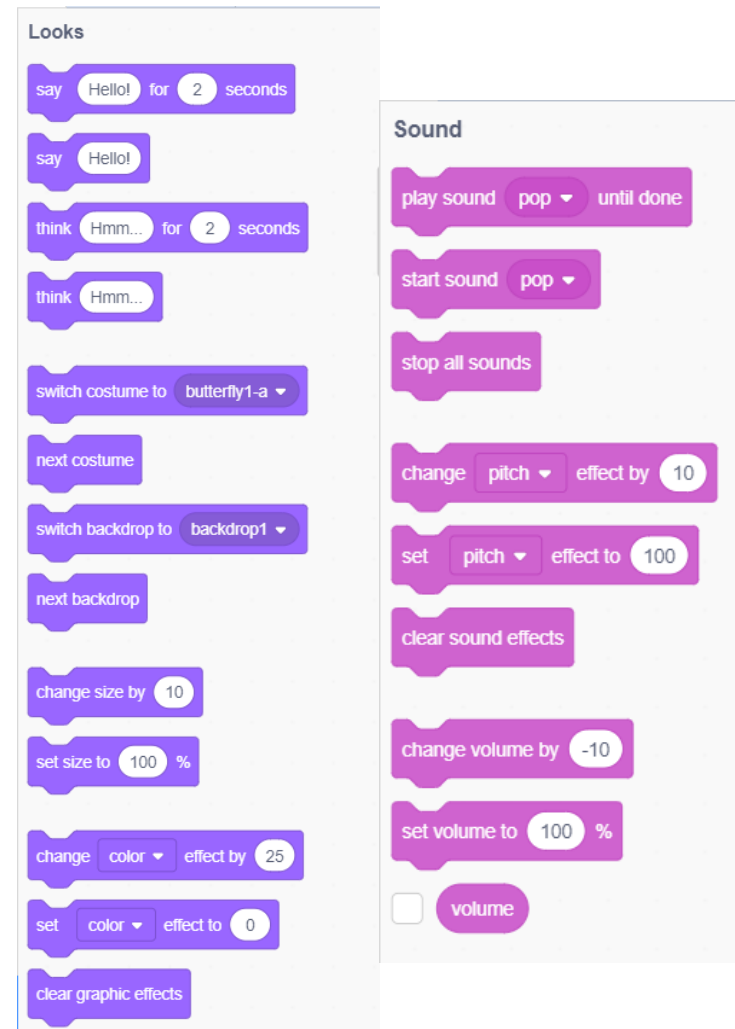
Event Blocks

- Event blocks are activated when an event happens. They are followed by a set of blocks, which will be executed. Event blocks are activated:
 - **When the green flag has been clicked.**
 - **When one key is pressed.**
 - **When the user clicks on a sprite.**
 - **When the backdrop changes to the one specified.**



Looks and Sound

- A Sprite can:
 - **speak** or **think** as in a comic book
 - **Disappear** and **appear**
 - **Change color, size** or **costume**
 - **Change** the **backdrop** of the Stage.
- The Stage can:
 - **Change backdrop** or **color**
- Sprites and Stage can:
 - Produce the **sounds of instruments**.
 - **Play** an **imported** or **recorded sound**.
 - **Change volume** and **tempo** of the **sound**.

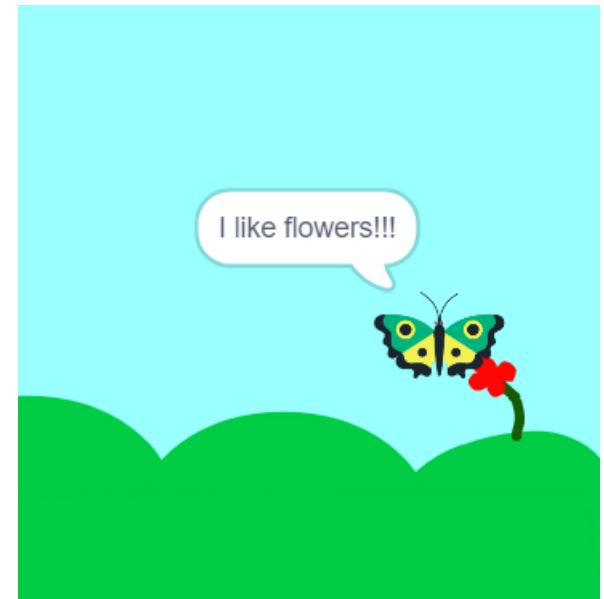


The image displays two panels from the Scratch software interface. The left panel, titled 'Looks', contains various blocks for manipulating a sprite's appearance, including 'say' and 'think' speech bubbles, 'switch costume to', 'next costume', 'switch backdrop to', 'next backdrop', 'change size by', 'set size to', 'change color effect by', 'set color effect to', and 'clear graphic effects'. The right panel, titled 'Sound', contains blocks for audio manipulation, including 'play sound', 'start sound', 'stop all sounds', 'change pitch effect by', 'set pitch effect to', 'clear sound effects', 'change volume by', 'set volume to', and a 'volume' slider control.

Exercise 3

Extend exercise 2 as follows:

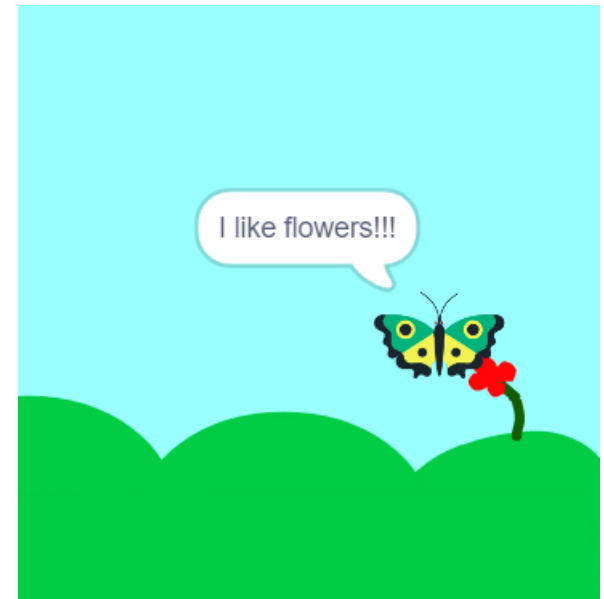
- When the butterfly is at the center, it should display the message “I am a butterfly!”
- When the butterfly reaches the flower it should display the message “I like flowers!!!”.



Exercise 4

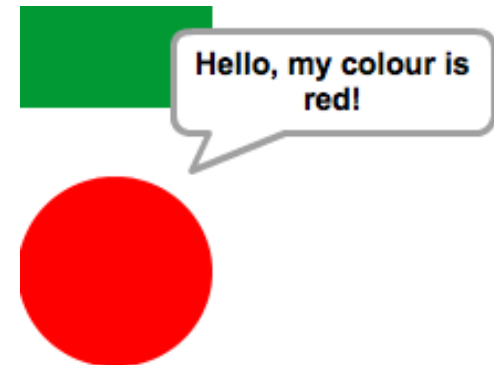
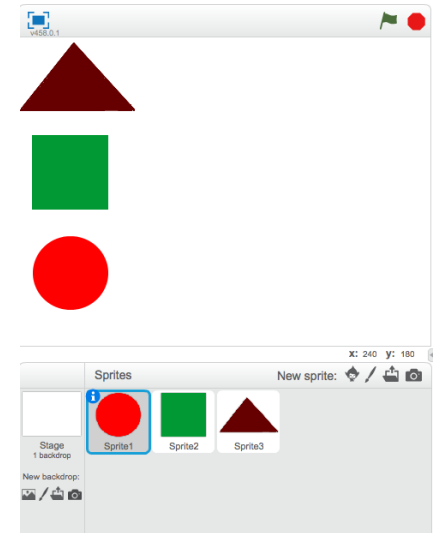
Extend exercise 2 as follows:

- Create and save a sound file with your own voice that says “I am a butterfly”. The audio file will be played when the butterfly is at the center of the stage.
- Create and save a sound file with your own voice that says “I like flowers!!!”. The audio file will be played when the butterfly reaches the flower.



Exercise 5

- Draw 3 sprites:
 - A red circle
 - A green square
 - A brown triangle
- The sprites will be initially placed on the left side of the screen.
- When someone clicks on a sprite:
 - A "cloud" will appear saying its shape and its color, as in a comic book text.
 - A recorded voice will repeat the above.
 - The sprite will glide in a second to the right side of the screen, and then return back to its initial position.



Communication between Sprites

- Sprites can communicate between them and also with the Stage through **messages**.

- A sprite or the stage **broadcasts** a **specific message**. In example, a sprite broadcasts the message **dance**.

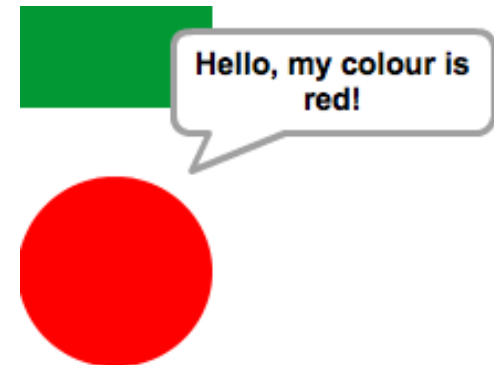
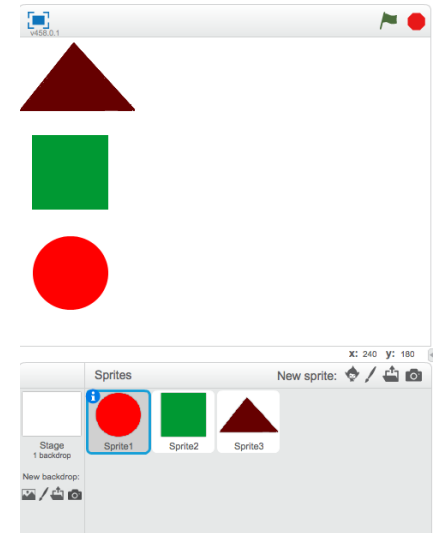


- The sprites that must react to this message will have a **When I receive dance** event block, with more code to be executed underneath.



Exercise 5

- Add the concert backdrop
- Add the balarina sprite.
- Resize the cat to 50% and the balarina to 80%.
- Write code so that when the green flag is pressed the cat will go to position x: -144, y=- 86 and the balarina to the center of the stage.
- Write code so that when the space key is pressed the balarina will broadcast the message “startDance” and it will start dancing by changing its custom 12 times.
- Write code so when the cat receives the message “startDance” it will start walking by walking



Remaining Command Blocks

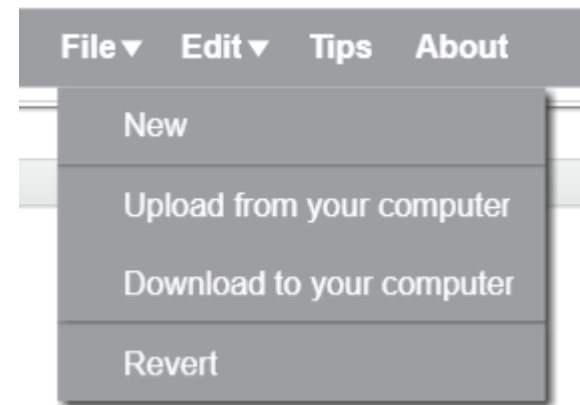
- We did not cover any blocks that are associated with:
 - **Control functions** (except the ones that we have already examined)
 - **Sensing**
 - **Operators** (numerical, logical or comparison)
 - The programming of **custom blocks**
 - **Variables**
 - and **all the extensions**.

Remaining Command Blocks

- These commands though can be also very useful. Par example, you will have to use **sensing blocks** and **operators** and **variables** to create a quiz that keeps score of successful answers.

Save and load a project

- To save locally at your computer a project select:
File → Download to your computer
- To load a project from your computer select:
File → Upload from your computer

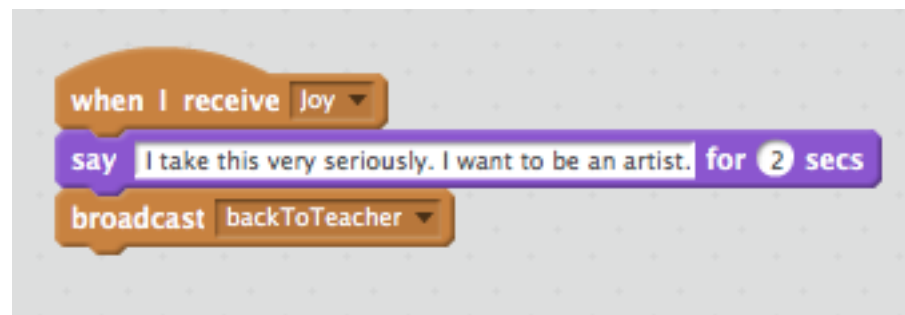
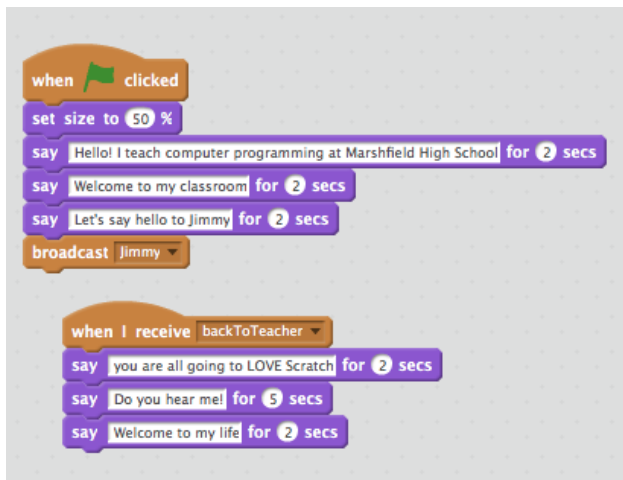


Scratch Applications Examples

- Click and Learn



- What I do



A Little Project for the inclusive classroom...

- You will need the following sprites:
 - The letters A, B, C, D, an apple, a butterfly, a cat, a dog and an "END" button (when the application starts the visible sprites will be the letters and the "END" button).
 - You can place them on any part of the screen by choosing a specific point and including the command "go to x ... y ..."
- When letter A is clicked
 - A recorded sound "apple" will be played.
 - The letter will say "apple" (in a cloud) for 3 seconds.
 - An apple will appear for 3 seconds and then disappear.
- A similar process will be followed when the other letters are clicked.
- When "END" button is clicked, the sound "End of the game" will be played.



We hope this was a useful session
Please, try to apply your new experience on Scratch
and provide your feedback!

Thank you!

You can **email any questions** about the material that we
did not have the time to cover (and also about the
material that we covered) at
loukas_dimopoulos@hotmail.com.