



STEM + C

Infusing Computing



Presented by Marnie Hill North Carolina State University



Computational Thinking

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Image from Dong & Cateté, SIGCSE, 2019

How can we incorporate it into classrooms? PRADA

- Pattern Recognition
- Abstractions
- **D**ecomposition
- Algorithms

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Energy Resource Management in Cellular

Scaffolded Instructions - Piloted for NSF RPP

Provide support to help minimize effects of preparatory privilege

- Students may have varying levels of computing experience going in
- Hour of Code, Summer Camps, Computing electives

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Use, Modify, Create

Unplugged modeling activity, pseudocode

Use a simple simulation to get students familiar with the coding environment

Modify simulation code to align more with student mental modes

• fix buggy code

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- provide starter code
- minimize extraneous cognitive load

Create your own extensions



From Instructing to Facilitating Student Creations!

What if students don't know what to add?

What if teachers don't know the answer?

Provide a list of recommended extensions

- Include important code blocks that should be used
- Give teachers a demo answer for each option
- Teachers can help facilitate student CT

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- Students get to <u>choose</u> their own model extensions
- Allows for wide-range of backgrounds to explore/succeed

Food Chain Activity



Extensions

Infusing Computing PD - STEM+C Grant



240 teachers completed summer PD over the last two years

Daily Structure **3C**:

<u>C</u>ode - Teachers learn coding skills by completing CT assignments with UMC

Connect - Teachers group by discipline and work with facilitators to make connections between their discipline and CT

<u>C</u>reate - Teachers develop team CT projects, by school or discipline

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Initial Findings - Summer 2019 PD

This year 40 team projects were created

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Teachers have started implementing their *own* <u>CT coding</u> <u>activities</u> that meet their *own* <u>learning objective</u> requirements within their *own* <u>classroom</u>

Several teacher groups have requested PDs for their entire school or for STEM teachers at middle school/high school pairs

Teachers are becoming owners and champions of CT in their discipline





Ongoing Research

- Instructor Influence on student programing behaviors
- Design patterns of CT in teacher projects
- Data driven analysis of student code shapes, how they go about completing sub goals, get stuck, or find efficient paths
- Best practices for design of CT coding activities in infused classrooms

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