

# Hour of Code 2016: Lesson Plan 1

**Big Idea** You are a programmer!

**Module** Hour of Code <https://app.vidcode.io/project/hoc-news>

Create a effects for a news video by using JavaScript functions.  
Learn the syntax of calling a function, and how to change its arguments to get different effects.

**Time** 60-90 minutes  
10 minutes background  
45-60 minutes coding  
10 minutes sharing  
5 minutes reflection

**Background** **The basics of JavaScript**  
(10 minutes)

**JavaScript** is a programming language. Since computers don't speak human languages like English or Spanish, we use programming languages to talk to them. JavaScript is the programming language that we can use to talk directly to web pages.

**Functions** are the main way of getting things done in JavaScript. A function is an action that has a name. Functions are written with parentheses.

Some functions need one or more **arguments** inside the parentheses. This tells the function extra information about what to do.

```
text("hello", 5, 10);
```

The text **function** takes three **arguments**: text, x position and y position. The order matters!

Teacher Reference: [http://www.w3schools.com/js/js\\_functions.asp](http://www.w3schools.com/js/js_functions.asp)

## Code Challenge

(45-60 minutes)

Have students follow the “Hour of Code” tutorial. They should read the instructions on the left and carry them out. When they’ve followed all the instructions on one panel, click the button to move on to the next part.

Circulate throughout the room to troubleshoot and keep students moving through the instructions.

## Sharing

(10 minutes)

Publish all the projects to the public Vidcode Gallery. Look at them all together. Whose stands out? Whose looks like yours?

Stand up and go talk to someone whose filter is similar to yours.

Now go talk to someone whose filter is different.

Talk about why you chose those filters, and what they say about your personality.

Imagine a world in which everyone made the same choices.

Would that world be interesting? Diversity makes the world better!

## Reflection

(5 minutes)

Who’s a programmer? You are!

Does code look like you expected? Is it easy, hard, straightforward, confusing?

What is a function? (An action that has a name.)

What is an argument? (More information about what or how much the function should do.)

Does the order of the arguments matter? (Yes!)