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#CompSciNJ

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New Jersey CSPDWeek

This material is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation under Award No. 2607763.

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Exploring Physical Computing with Young Learners

By Michelle Velho

New Jersey CSPDWeek

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<https://tinyurl.com/kv8fs62y>

Physical Computing

The study, design, and creation of interactive physical systems that can sense and respond to the physical world. This involves the use of software and hardware components like sensors, actuators, and microcontrollers.

Physical Computing System

A combination of hardware and software that uses sensors to receive information, processes that information with a programmable controller, and uses outputs or actuators to respond to people or the physical environment.

Enduring Priorities



Algorithms



Programming



Data & Analysis



Computing Systems

Emerging Priorities



Ethics & Impacts



AI & Emerging Technologies



Human-Centered Design



Inclusive Collaboration



History of Computing



Career Exploration

Physical Computing

Bridges the digital and physical worlds.

- Makes abstract computer science concepts visible and tangible.
- Integrates computational thinking with engineering design.
- Supports inquiry, creativity, and problem-solving across disciplines.
- Empowers students to become creators of technology, not just consumers.

Unplugged

- Open up a device
- KLEWS
- Call and response game

Hello Ruby

- KLEWs
- Read a chapter
- Follow up activity

Makey Makey

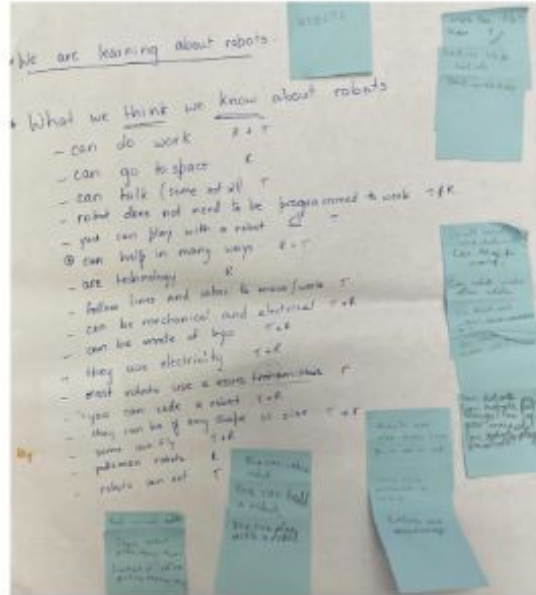
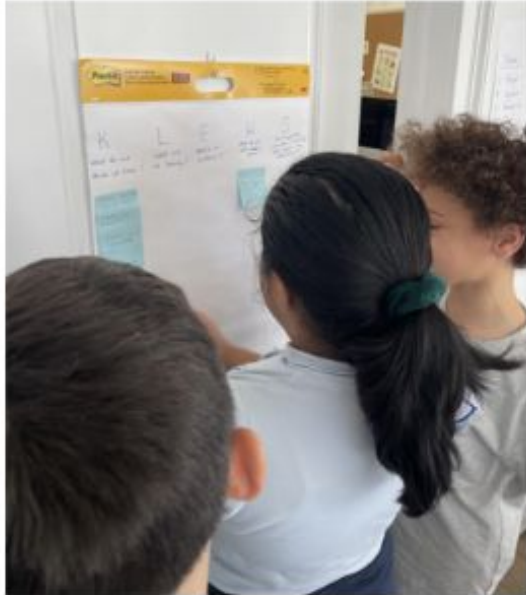
- Closed Circuit
- Interactive Circuit
- Introduction to Block Coding

Microbit

- Microcontroller parts
- Compare with Makey Makey
- Introduction to block coding

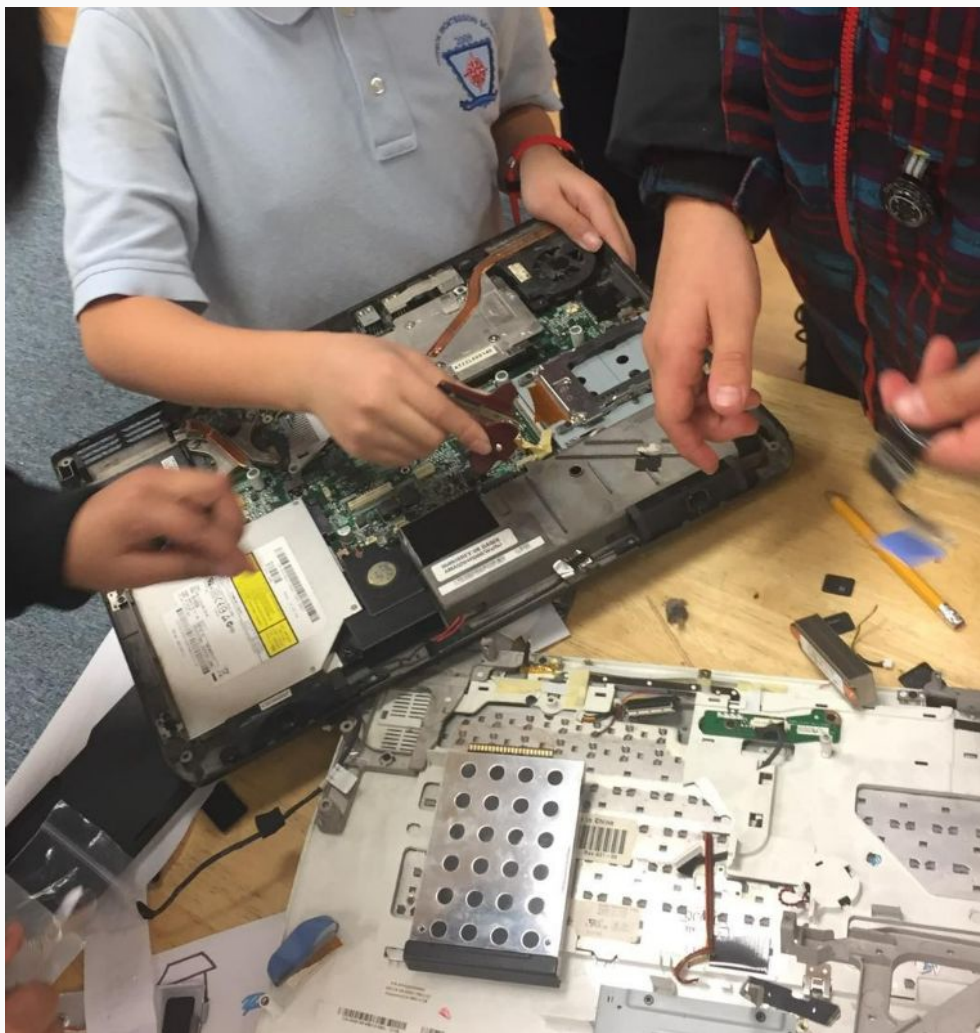
What do you think this is?

What Do You Notice? What Do You Wonder ?



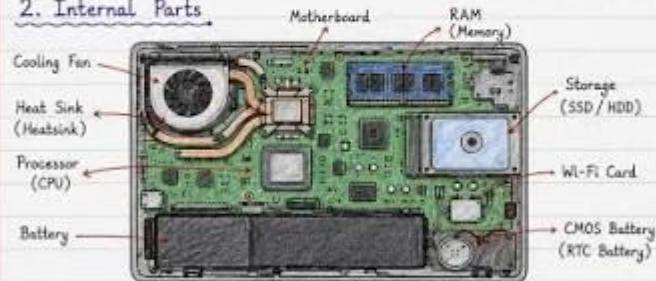
Driving/Lesson Question:

K	L	E	W	S
What we think we know about the phenomenon	What we are learning	Evidence (from our data)	Wonderings	Scientific Concepts and Words



A laptop is a portable computer that has many hardware components working together.





- Display shows the output.
- Keyboard and Touchpad are used for input.
- Processor (CPU) is the brain of laptop.
- RAM helps in temporary data storage.
- Storage stores our data permanently.
- Battery provides power to the laptop.

All these parts work together to make a laptop useful and portable.

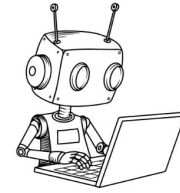


@ Mastercode.sagar





Human vs. Computing Systems



Input

Biological Analogy

Senses (Eyes,
Skin)

Computer/ Robot

Sensors

Automated
Example

Temperature
sensor reading
room heat

Processing

Biological Analogy

Brain (Thinking)

Computer/ Robot

**Microcontroller
/ CPU**

Automated
Example

Calculating
whether to turn on
AC

Memory

Biological Analogy

Memory
(Short/Long-term)

Computer/ Robot

**RAM / Flash /
EEPROM**

Automated
Example

Storing target
temperature
setpoints and past
log data

Output

Biological Analogy

Muscles (Actions)

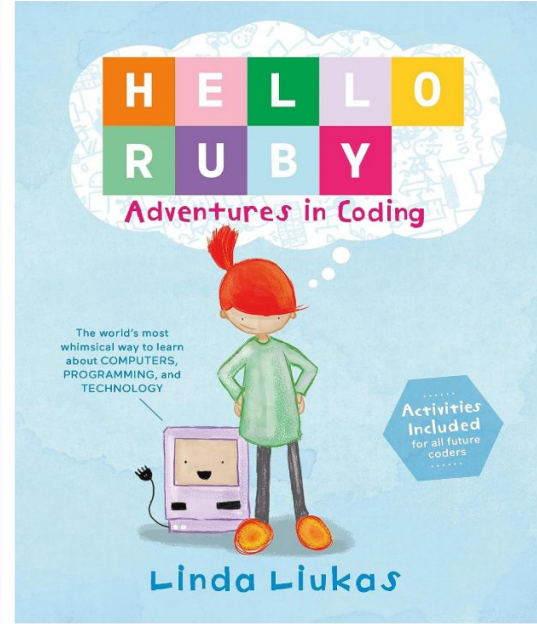
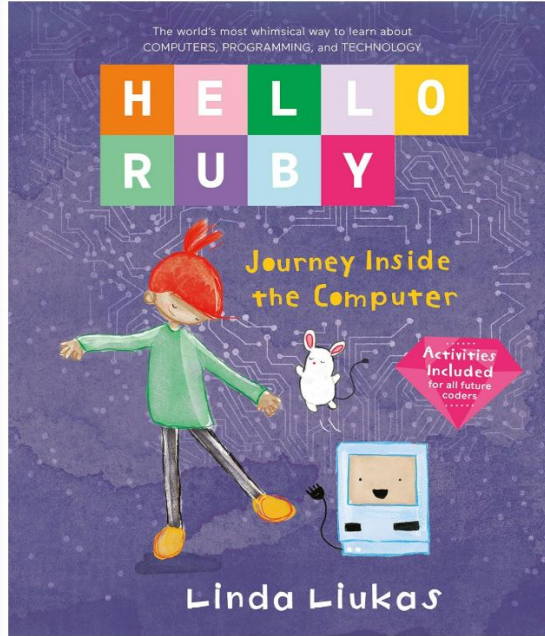
Computer/ Robot

Actuators

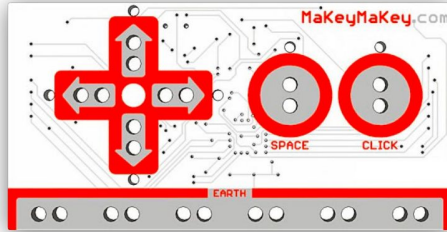
Automated
Example

Motor spinning the
fan blade

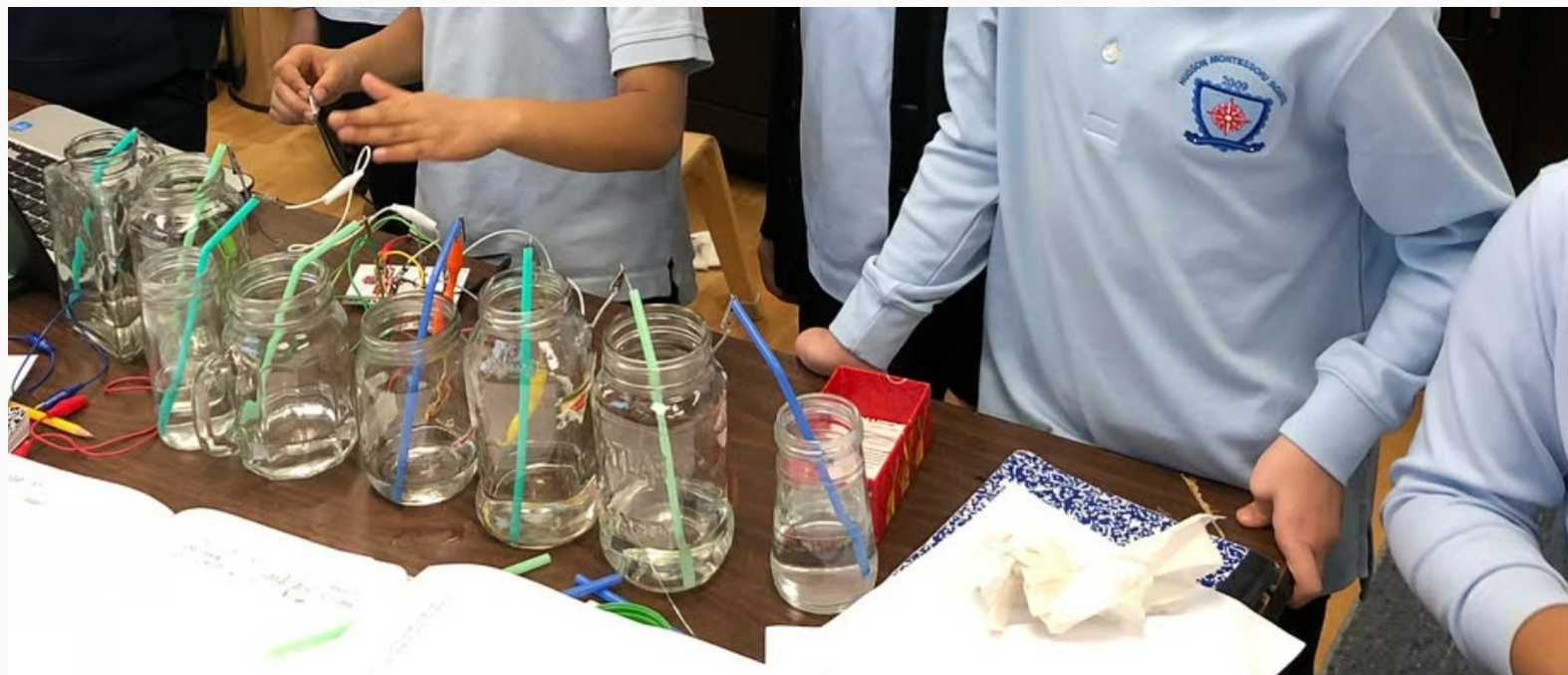
Hook With a Book



Make With Makey Makey



Meet
Makey Makey





EDUCATOR'S GUIDE

V1.0
JANUARY
2018

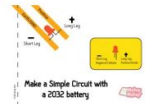
www.makeymakey.com

LEARNING AT HOME WITH MAKEY MAKEY

STEM activities created with kids in mind to encourage playful learning, tinkering, creativity, and invention for everyone at home.

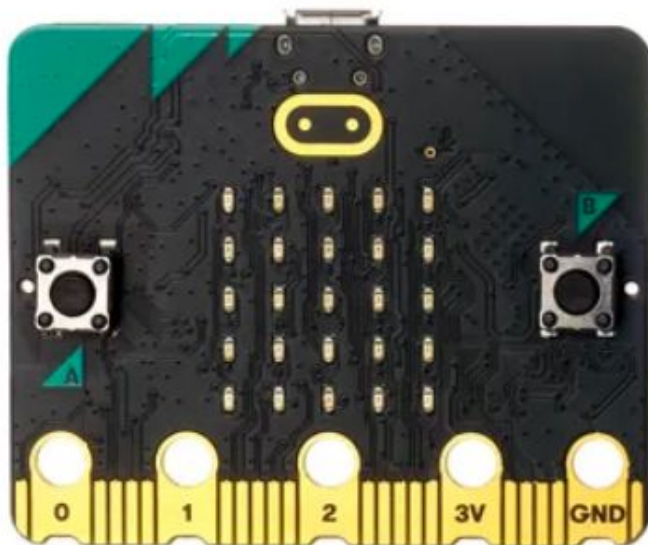
[Get a Makey Makey for home](#)



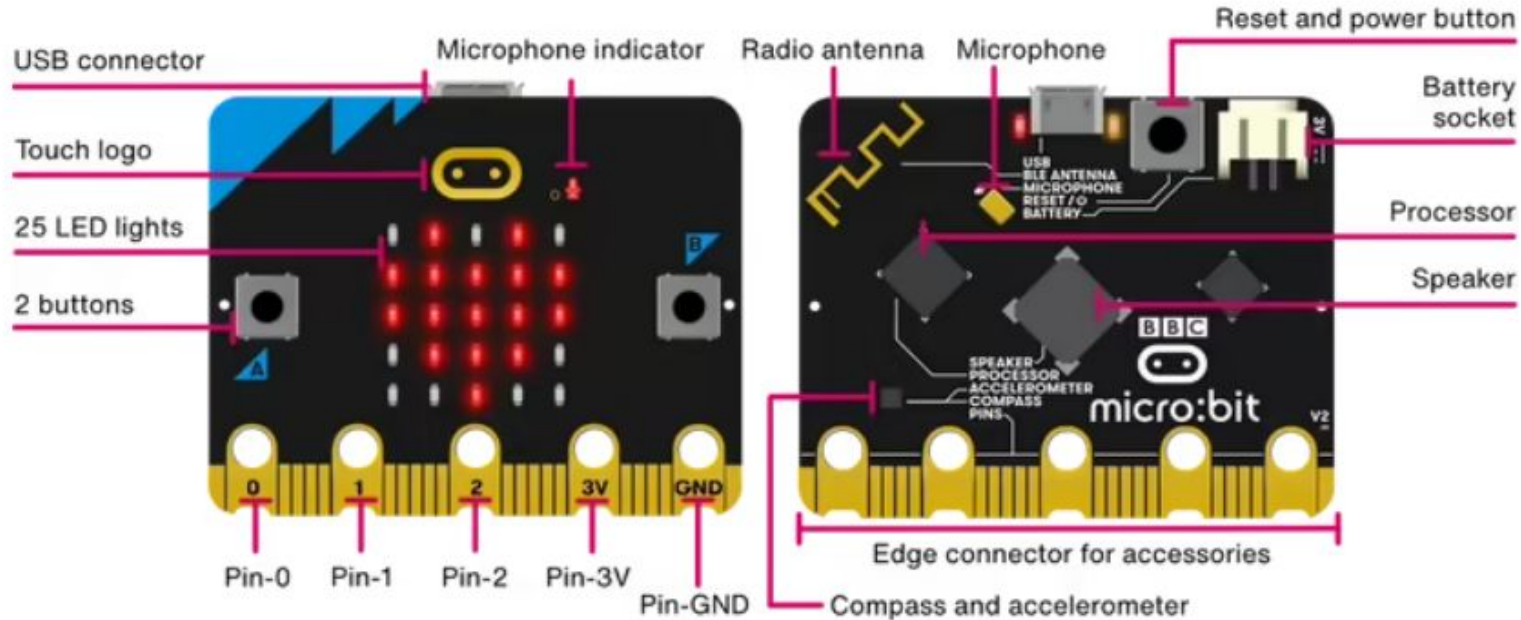
	Lesson Description	At Home Learning Link	Learning Objective
Lesson 1: Craft a Circuit	Learn how to hack a tea light to craft a simple paper circuit! 	https://makeymakey.com/blogs/how-to-instructions/lesson-one-simple-circuit	Learn how things work by taking something apart and building your own circuit to light up an LED!
Lesson 2: Hands on!	Make a simple sketch of Makey Makey and build a human circuit. 	https://makeymakey.com/blogs/how-to-instructions/lesson-two-hands-on-a-makey-makey	Understand how Makey Makey works, so you can start building and coding your own inventions.
Lesson 3: What is Conductive?	Create a conductivity testing board so you can ideate materials for inventing! 	https://makeymakey.com/blogs/how-to-instructions/lesson-three-what-is-conductive	Create a science experiment with things around your house. Make observations that energy can be transferred from place to place by electric currents.

Make more with Micro:Bit

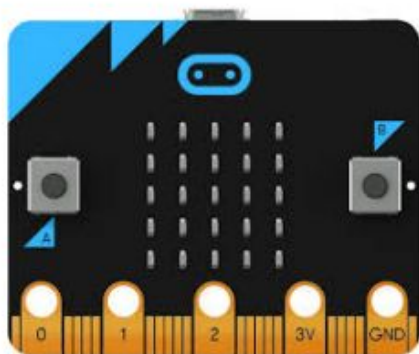
Look closely at the Micro:Bit.
What do you notice?
What do you wonder?



micro:bit V2



Bottom edge is bumpy



Micro:bit



Data cord
(usb/micro cable)



Battery
pack

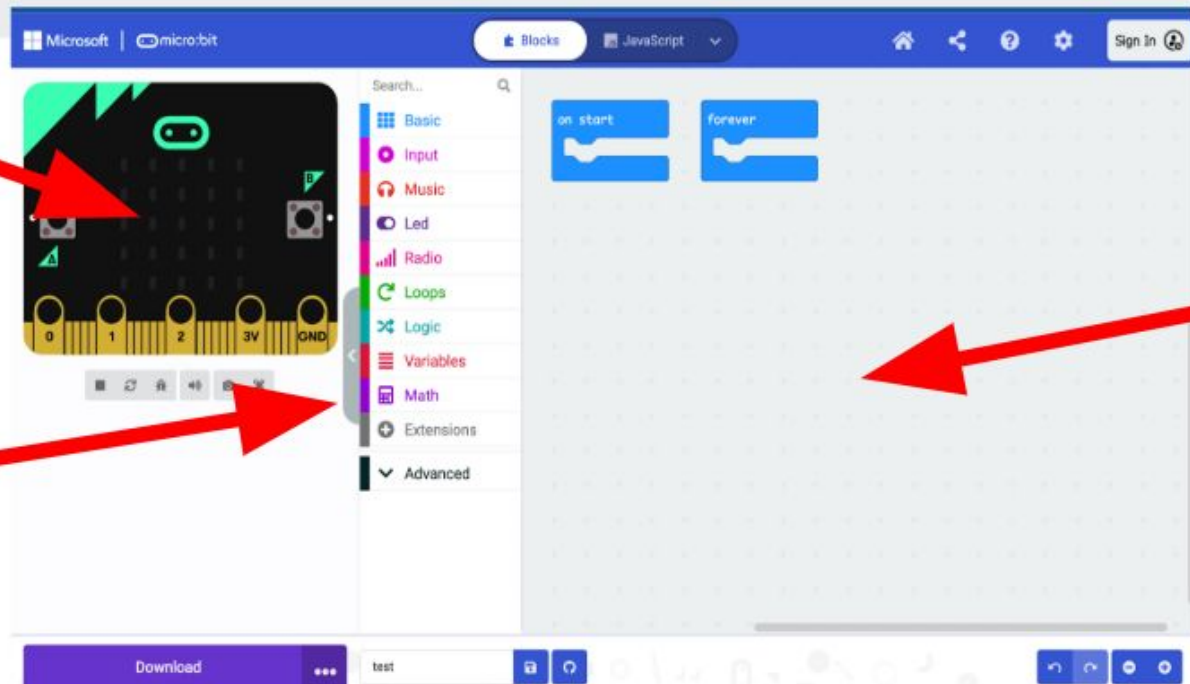


Micro:bit
simulator

Code block
categories

Coding
space

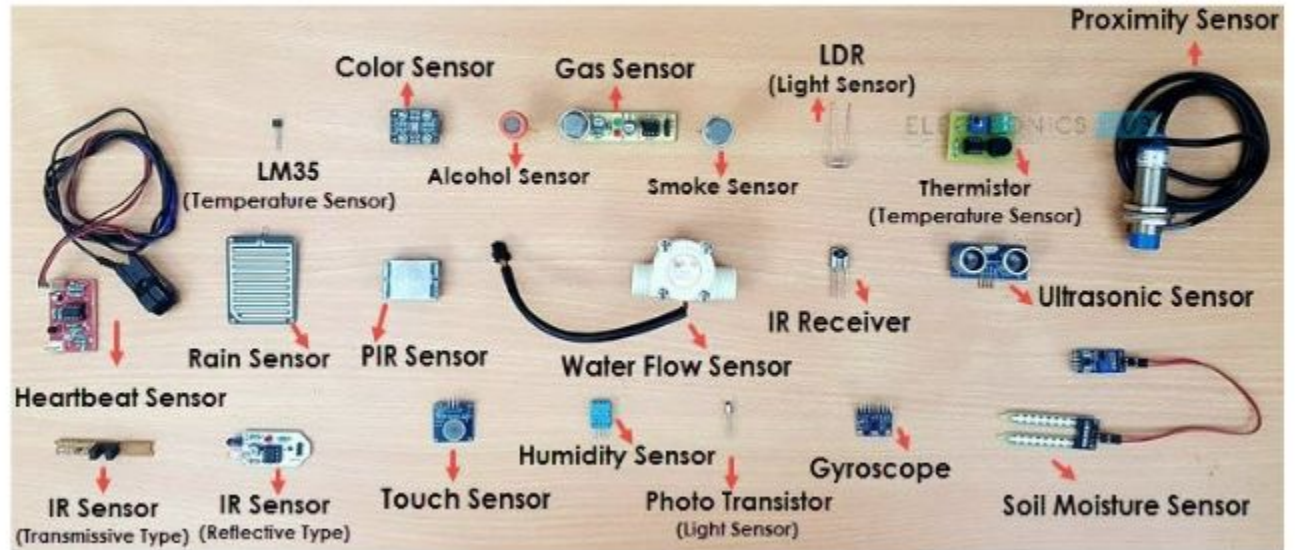
Download to
Micro:bit

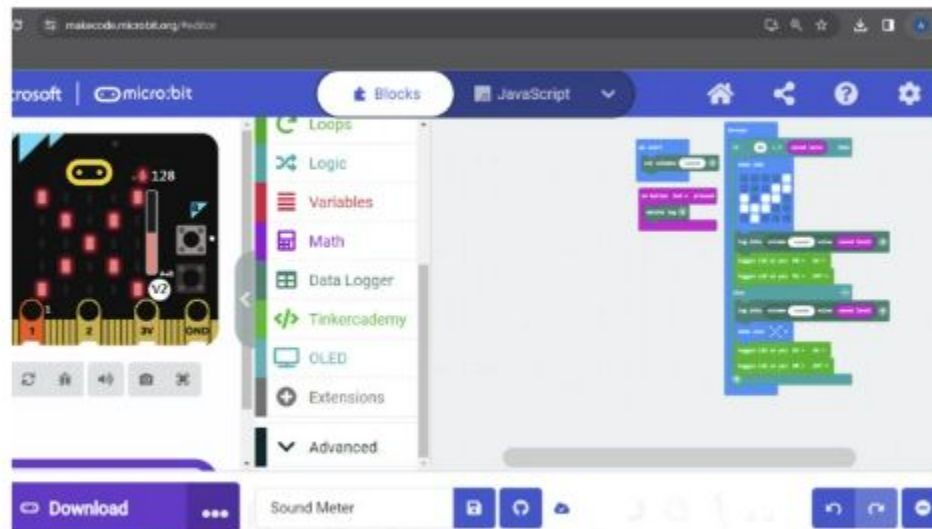
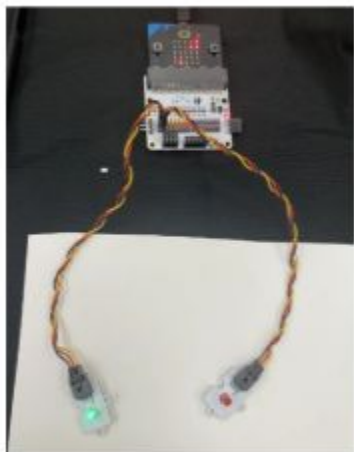


Humans



Machines





9. MOISTURE SENSOR

