

SCALE-IT students create fun interactive social activities to make interdisciplinary science more accessible

Program Dance

Ever wondered what it would be like to be INSIDE a program? Well now you can experience the other side of your computer screen in! Join us for a fun, interactive educational visualization of programming through dance. We will set three basic functions: swing, salsa, and Hungarian folk dance. You, as a number, will be initialized in these functions and then programmed in a dance performance of basic commands.

This educational activity is perfect for experiencing programming basics and interdisciplinary themes in a fun, interactive manner. Interdisciplinary work stems naturally from the wide applications of computer science, even into the realms of dance! As you experience basic programming from the perspective of units in an array, you will perceive that a functional whole develops from the interaction of several basic components. Any one individual can accomplish little or nothing in terms of the larger program, but by collaborating and working as a unit, a theme can be efficiently explored in its entirety. A program is a natural catalyst of interdisciplinary work.

Scientific Clue

World leaders have just announced a grave danger; a threatening anonymous note has been discovered on each continent! Each note warns that mass destruction will ensue in eight days, but the actual location, type of weapon, and its creators are unknown. It's up to you to deduce these three variables and discover how to disarm the weapon in this Clue-style game. But you can't do it alone! You must join forces to combine your specialized knowledge with an elite group of experts trying to address this crisis. There's only one difficulty between you and saving the world: everyone in this special task force has a different area of expertise! Can you overcome your differences in order to preserve the planet? This unique board game emphasizes the importance of collaboration in interdisciplinary work as the players seek to unravel the mystery of this global threat.

Collaboration is necessary for success in any endeavor. Interdisciplinary work is the culmination of collaboration, occurring between specialists of very different disciplines. Each field of knowledge has a unique perspective to offer a problem, and only when these perspectives are combined can the problem be seen clearly from every direction and a solution found. This fun board game brings to the forefront the importance of working with others across disciplines in order to fully explore and solve a problem. As this activity reveals, collaboration and interdisciplinary work are required for successful problem-solving.