SilverCode Guide to Programming for Elders

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Outline

- Motivation
- About the SilverCode Project
- The coding guide curricula
- The guide modules
- Tutorial Applications Examples
- Conclusions
- Perspectives

Why teach elders (55+) to code?

- to be more confident in the use of electronic devices in their everyday life
 - online payments, online shopping
 - e-administration services, e-government services
 - e-health devices
- to be able to socialize with the new generation of descendants
 - to have common topic for discussions about
 - gadgets
 - Emails, email clients on laptops, tablets, mobile phones
 - social networks: Facebook, Twitter, ...
 - communication apps: Skype, WhatsApp, etc.

SilverCode Project

- Erasmus+ project 2016-1-BG01-KA2014-023736
- Partners: Bulgaria, Slovenia, Italy, Portugal, Austria, Romania, Poland
 - associations working with elders, universities (RO+PL)
- Period: 2 years from 01.10.2016-30.09.2018
- Budget: ~250,000 Euro



https://www.silvercodeproject.eu/

Modules

- Basic digital skills
- Computational thinking
- Fine tuning with digital language
- Basic of computer programming
- Coding everyday

Basic digital skills

- Computer parts: MB, CPU, Memory, HDD, keyboard, mouse
- OS MS Windows startup, shutdown, icons, new, copy, cut, paste, delete files/folders/shortcuts
- MS Office: Word, Excel, Powerpoint examples
- Web Browsers, Online E-mailing (Gmail, Yahoo Mail), Skype, Facebook
- Logical blocks schema, algorithms, vector, matrix, syntax, constants, variables, instructions, subroutines, strings in the context of JavaScript

Computational thinking

- What is computational thinking?
- What is coding?
- Why is it important to problem solving?
- Relations between computational thinking and coding
- How to analyze issues?
- How to solve problems using digital skills?
- etc.

Fine tuning with digital language

- Keywords and terms in English for better understanding of computer programming
- Specific terminology to reflect the digital mind set
- Multi-lingual glossary of online terms.
- Quizzes

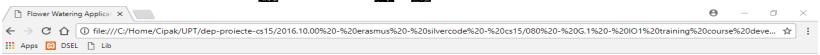
Basic of computer programming

- Motivational examples
- Introduction to programming languages
 - Java, Latex, C#, Google Sites, Blogger
- JavaScript
 - Read, understand and write simple code
 - Basic concepts of object-oriented programming
 - Basic JS functions
 - To be able to implement examples
- HTML and JavaScript examples
- HTML and CSS and JavaScript examples

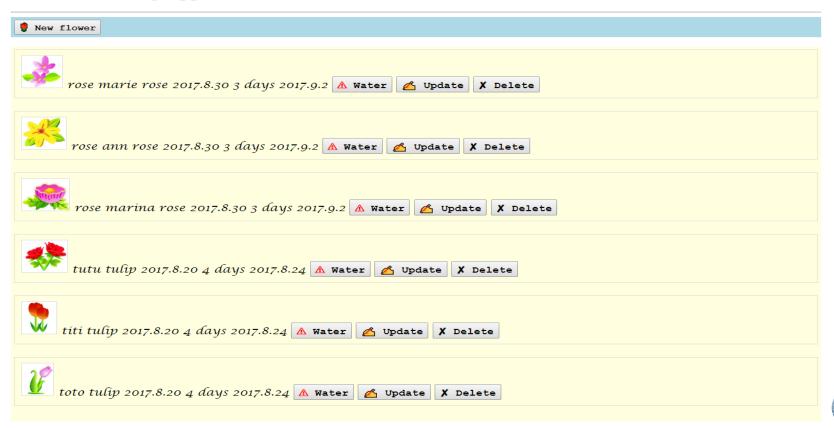
Coding everyday

- Flower watering Java Script application
 - To read data from a cookie
 - To write data to a cookie
 - To design a HTML and CSS web interface
 - To add a new flower
 - To list all the flowers marking the ones needing water
 - To water a flower
- Pill reminder JavaScript application
 - To read/write data from/to a cookie
 - To design a HTML and CSS web interface
 - To add a new pill with schedule
 - To list all pills marking those that were not taken
 - To mark a pill as taken

Flower Watering JavaScript Application



Flower Watering Application



Conclusions

- The guide
 - Some parts are still work in progress
 - Contains all the key concepts necessary to write almost state of the art applications
 - Applications strings must be translated
 - Manual approach not internationalization technologies
 - To favor simplicity of the resulting application
 - Variable names may be subject to translation
 - Better understanding of the code

Perspectives

- To translate the materials in all languages of the project
- To revise the content according to project members observations
- To implement the pilot testing
 - 30 persons from each country
- To strengthen the SilverCode community of elder programmers