

Guessing Game

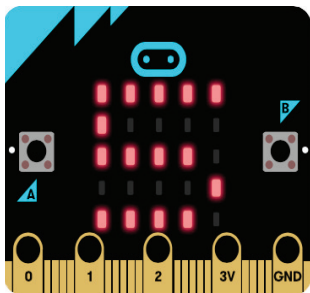
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- The Micro:bit will choose a random number
- Can you guess it?



10 mins

1. Objective

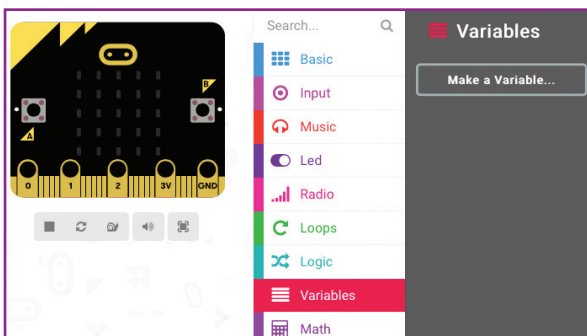


The Micro:bit will choose a random number, between 0 and 10. Will you be able to guess it?

The Micro:bit doesn't have a keyboard, so how will we be able to enter our guesses?

Hint: it may not have a keyboard, but it does have **A** and **B** buttons.

2. Storing data

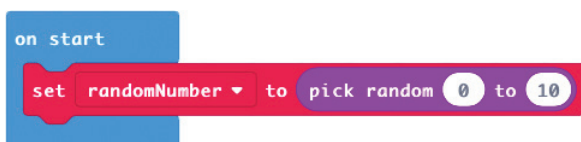


Computers need an area of memory to store numbers and other data. We give each of these areas a name so that we can refer back to them. They are called *variables*. We need a variable in which to store the number which the Micro:bit will choose.

Lets make our first variable!

1. Click on the red variables tab
2. Click the Make a Variable... button
3. A text box will appear. Give the variable a meaningful name (e.g. randomNumber). Note that variables typically cannot contain spaces or punctuation, nor must they start with a number.

3. Choosing a random number



Now we have a variable, the Micro:bit can choose a random number and *assign* it to the variable.

1. New blocks will have appeared in the variables tab. Drag the `set randomNumber to 0` block into the `on start` block.
2. Now, we need to generate a random number. This block is located in the *math* tab. Drag it into the previous block, as shown
3. Now when the Micro:bit starts, a random number will be chosen and assigned to the *randomNumber* variable
4. Nothing is being displayed in the virtual Micro:bit. Can you work out why?

4. Storing our guess



```
on start
  set randomNumber to pick random 0 to 10
  set myGuess to 5
  show number myGuess
```

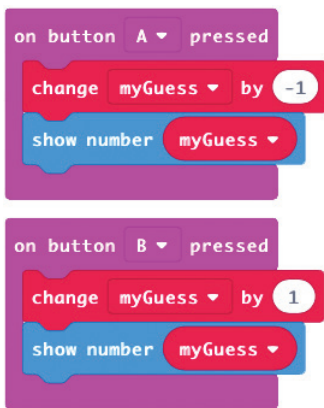
Did you manage to solve the earlier problem of how to input our guess?

There is more than one solution, but one way is to use the A button to decrease our guess number; B button to increase our guess number; and both buttons to submit our guess.

If you have thought of a different way, try to do it your way instead.

1. Create a second variable in which to store your guess. In the example, it's called `myGuess`
2. Add `set myGuess to 5` into the `on start` block
3. We also need to display what our current choice is. Add the `show number` block, and drag the `myGuess` variable into it. This will show whatever number is stored in the variable

5. Changing our guess number



```
on button A pressed
  change myGuess by -1
  show number myGuess

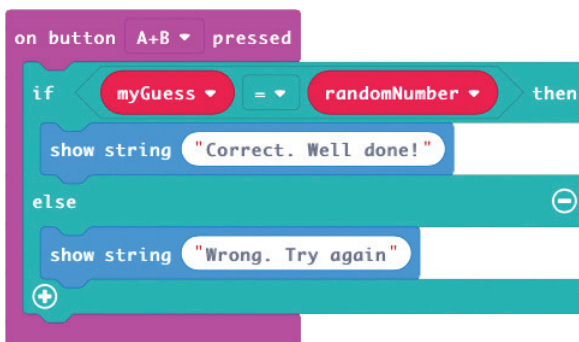
on button B pressed
  change myGuess by 1
  show number myGuess
```

Our default guess number is 5. We need to be able to change that to a number of our choosing.

Lets add the code which will allow us to reduce this number.

1. Add the blocks as shown. Each time the A button is pressed, the number stored in `myGuess` is reduced by 1, then shown on the LEDs.
2. Add another set of blocks to control what happens when button B is pressed. Can you see what the difference between them is?

6. Is our guess correct?



```
on button A+B pressed
  if myGuess = randomNumber then
    show string "Correct. Well done!"
  else
    show string "Wrong. Try again"
```

The Micro:bit needs to compare what is stored in each variable. If both variables store the same number, display "Correct. Well done!", or else print "Wrong. Try again".

1. The `if` block is stored in the *Logic* tab
2. Add the `equals` comparison, also stored in the *Logic* tab
3. Press the *plus* icon to add an `else` statement
4. Add the messages as shown
5. Test your program. Can you guess the number?

7. Challenge activities

- Modify your program to count how many attempts you take to get the correct answer
- Limit the number of guesses to three
- You can currently submit numbers outside the guessing range? How can you prevent this?