

5TH AND 6TH CLASSES: USING MICRO:BITS TO MAKE PEDOMETERS

BACKGROUND

As part of Social, personal and health education (SPHE), the children are learning about healthy lifestyles and the ways in which they can improve their overall health and wellbeing.

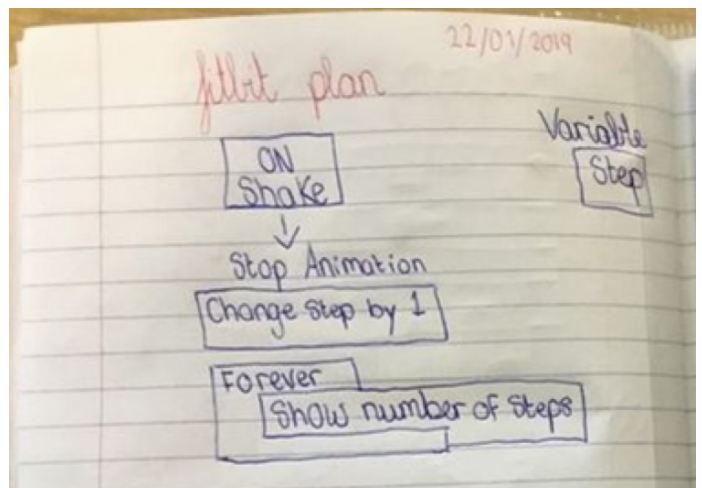
They are discussing how an active lifestyle is very important and decide to design and make pedometers.

TASK

The class will discuss the appropriate blocks of code in the Micro:bit environment needed to get the pedometer to work.

The children will work in pairs to plan and design their pedometers in their copies before programming the Micro:bits.

The children will also work in pairs to programme their pedometers. They will be encouraged to test their code (using the online simulator) and debug before downloading the code to their Micro:bits.



CHILDREN'S WORK

The children wrote, tested, debugged and downloaded the code to their Micro:bits. They then used ribbon, tape and pipe cleaners to make their pedometers.

The children were invited to test their pedometers in the school yard. They noticed that there was a delay in the display of the number of steps. We discussed how they could remove this delay by adding a “stop animation” block.

They recorded and shared their work using iPads and posted to their online portfolios. They also had the opportunity to reflect on their work and the work of their peers, again using their online portfolios.

