

Jon Claerbout's nomination of Mitchel Resnick, developer of Scratch, for the Gordon Prize

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tinyurl.com/93bdwxj8 **or at** sep.stanford.edu/sep/jon/ScratchNomination.pdf

Mitchel Resnick, ([CV](#)), Professor of Learning Research at the MIT Media Lab, developed the idea and runs the team that built Scratch for students aged 8-80+. It is composed of two parts, a graphical computer language and a community of users. The community is ingeniously organized to grow creativity among its members. For any scratcher to show-off his/her project to anyone, they must expose it to everyone including all of the project internals. Others may grab any project and make alterations and show their **remixed** project. This is a modern embodiment of Gutenberg's printing press.

Scratch users (mostly children) become creative through Projects, Peers, Passion, and Play. [Wikipedia says](#), "...community statistics on the language's official website show more than 73 million projects shared by over 68 million users, and almost 38 million monthly website visits". Please view [an article at the Lego Foundation](#) and scroll down to a **world map of the many countries** that participate in annual Scratch-Day conferences.

Please see book reviews of [Mitchel Resnick's book Lifelong Kindergarten at Amazon.com](#).

Please view [The Scratch home page](#) and look around there.

Earth Day inspired [this studio](#) with more than 100 projects and more than 10,000 comments.

Cal Tech's Jet Propulsion Laboratory JPL is seeding kids with current Mars data and imagery that kids can use to do a Mars landing project. Allow [JPL to show you how](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#). [A proposal](#).

The mission and impact of Scratch are described in two articles that Resnick and his team published in *Communications of the ACM*: [Scratch: Programming for All](#) (cover story, 2009), and [Coding at a Crossroads](#) (2020).

You may view the [current fund-raising solicitation by the Scratch Foundation](#). Its current updates are [Educator Guide: Explore Mars With Scratch](#) and the [Scratch Month page](#).

I'm a long-time science coder aged 83. I learned from Scratch the coding of communicating threads. I also learned how to utilize cloning. For both, please enjoy my demos below.

(1) [A flying carpet with a duck jolted off and flying back](#). Most adults immediately grasp how to run it (Touch the **green flag**) and after a few minutes, how to alter it (Touch **See inside**.) You can try changes right now!

(2) In my larger non-interactive project [swarms of three species of "bugs" in a bloodstream attack one-another](#). In 2-3 minutes you can see and hear all of the types of interactions.

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