Greetings!

We hope you had a Happy Halloween earlier this week! This month, we revisit some basics: What is computer science? Where can I find Computer Science SOLs? Scroll down for more! In October, the ARCS team shared out at two national conferences: the National Rural Education Association conference, and the United States Education Department EIR Project Directors Meet- ing. We will be sharing at VAST and VSTE later this fall, too. We are so proud of the project and hope you find your value in being part of it, too. Speaking of value, later this month we will be reaching out to those of you who joined the project and completed the Code VA K-5 Coaches Academy last summer. We will be offering you a choice of free CS classroom materials, courtesy of ARCS! If you are currently enrolled in the Microcredentials, watch out for communications from our ARCS Education Specialists. They are planning some live online events to support you!

"Whether you are in your first or second year with us, please sign up for Code VA’s Learning Bytes (see Professional Learning section below)."

We are ready to get you opening up enrollment for next year’s cohort. Do you know an educator or team of educators who might be interested in joining ARCS? If so, please forward this link so that they can register to receive more information: http://bit.ly/ARCSINTEREST2023.

Since this is our November edition, we wanted to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. As always, if you have any questions or comments for us, please don’t hesitate to email us at tcep@odu.edu.

Pedagogy Pointers

Lower Elementary Resources

For Lower Elementary: GoOpen/VA has K-2 friendly computer science vocabulary word sort that includes imagery to help lower elementary students learn and better understand the kind of technology they will see in computer science lessons. The lesson is aligned to CS 2.7, 3.8, 4.8, and 5.7.

Access lesson plan here

Computer Science in the Commonwealth

What is computer science?

While the definition of computer science is not complex, the multitude of uses and applications of computer science is as diverse as any other aspect of our culture and society, which re-

minds us that computer science instruction should be designed to involve and engage all learn-

ers. In fact, integrative computer science activities across the curriculum that incorporate stu-
dent voice and introduce new concepts using familiar vocabulary are among the techniques that can promote computer science engagement. Watch this brief (4 minute) video from the 2019 International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) annual conference for ideas and an example on creating a culturally diverse learning space to promote computer science for all.

Professional Learning

CodeVA provides year-round computer science professional development for all Virginia K-12 educators. Register for upcoming Learning Bytes PD sessions:

Data Science Every Day

Backward Design for Computer Science Integration

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Old Dominion University
The Center for Educational Partnerships
Have a question or feedback for us? Email TCEP@odu.edu.
Website: http://www.edu.odu.edu/tcep
Tel: 757-683-5449