**Top 5 Reasons Kids & Teens Should Learn to Code in 2016**

**1. Programmers are in high demand.** According to [Code.org](https://code.org/promote), 71% of all new STEM jobs are in computing, yet only 8% of STEM graduates are in Computer Science. That’s a SERIOUS shortage of CS majors. Learning to code will increase your child’s odds of securing a lucrative STEM career, especially in a world where computing jobs are growing at over twice the national average. Coding has quickly become a vital skill, and Code.org points out that CS majors can earn 40% more than the college average.

**2. Coding provides a competitive advantage when applying to colleges, internships, and jobs.**If you possess a hot skill that many of your peers’ lack–such as the ability to code–you instantly appear more desirable in the eyes of potential college admissions officers and employers.

**3. Coding fosters other crucial 21st century skills like critical thinking and problem-solving.**For many developers, part of the appeal of coding is the challenge and reward of seeing their code come to life after a good debugging session. Don’t be fooled, however–with the right instruction, getting started with programming can be easy and fun.

**4. With programming knowledge, students better understand the world around them.**Most of us don’t know the first thing about what makes our smartphones, laptops, social media networks, and video games run. Basic programming knowledge can change the way we interact the technologies we use (and take for granted) daily, and can open our eyes to the infinite possibilities of coding.

**5. Programming is fun and satisfying.** While programming is logic-based, it’s also an extremely creative activity. If you know how to code, you can develop apps, video games, web sites, and more!

Convinced? The good news is; your child will be learning to code this year!!!