

Let's try making our own calculator.

We'll be using **Scratch**.

First, a quick refresher on helpful **blocks**.

A decorative border of various science-related icons in blue, including a lightbulb, brain, abacus, graph, DNA, microscope, globe, atom, water molecule, and mathematical symbols like $\sqrt{2}$ and H_2O .

Go to Scratch.mit.edu

Sign in & Click “Create”
for a new Project

Quick Refresh of Scratch Layout

Column 1: Code Block Library

Column 2: Active Program (Drag blocks from Column 1)

*each sprite has its own blocks

Column 3: Preview

Backpack

Sprites are found here

The screenshot shows the Scratch IDE interface. The top bar includes 'Code', 'Costumes', and 'Sounds' tabs. The left sidebar contains a 'Code Block Library' with categories: Motion, Looks, Sound, Events, Control, Sensing, Operators, Variables, and My Blocks. The main workspace is divided into three columns. The first column (left) is the 'Code Block Library'. The second column (middle) is the 'Active Program', showing a script starting with 'when this sprite clicked', followed by an 'if' block for 'Moles = 0', a 'set' block for 'g/mol' to 'enter moles first', an 'else' block with an 'ask' block, another 'set' block for 'g/mol' to 'answer', a 'set' block for 'Mass (g)' to 'Moles * answer', and a 'say' block. The third column (right) is the 'Preview' stage, showing a space-themed backdrop with several input fields: 'g/mol 0', 'Mass (g) 0', 'Volume (L) 0', and 'Particles 0'. A 'Reset' button is also present. A 'Sprite' panel at the bottom right shows the current sprite's properties: 'download', 'x: -80', 'y: 144', 'Size: 100', and 'Direction: 90'. A 'Backpack' area at the bottom left shows the 'Enter g/mol' sprite. The text 'Sprites are found here' is located in the bottom right area of the stage.



Quick Reference – Helpful Blocks *Just a few of the possibilities!*



Always start with an event.



Movement can make your project more interesting.



Ask the user a question; afterwards, do something with the answer.



If ____, do this.

If not, do that.



Add



Subtract



Multiply



Divide



Make & Name a Variable



Set or change your variable - ovals fits the green operators!

Types of Other Blocks

Motion



Make your sprite turn, glide, flip, walk, or go to a specific place.

Looks



Make your sprite say text, change size, switch costume, backdrop, or be hidden.

Sound



Make your sprite play sounds (be mindful of others in the room).

Events



Always start your script with an Event. This triggers the code to start.

Control



Very helpful blocks! Repeat actions, or only play them under certain conditions.

Sensing



Detect key press or mouse click, ask for user input, or respond to other events.

Operators



Change values: Do math with numbers, alter text, or use logic (and, or, not)

Variables



Set or change variables if your code needs them.

My Blocks



Make a custom block.





Do This Now!

Why do they call 6.02×10^{23} a “Mole” of something?

I don't know. But it's convenient because a mole is also a cute animal.

Find and download a picture of a mole.

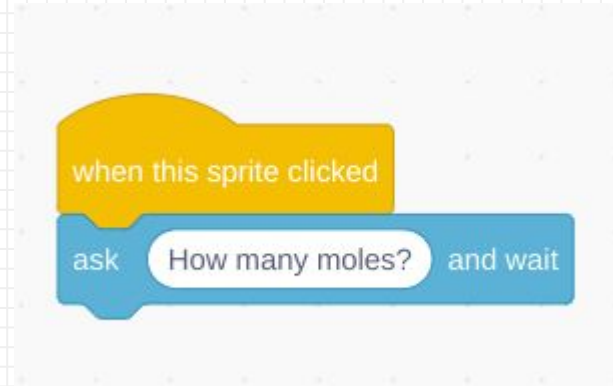


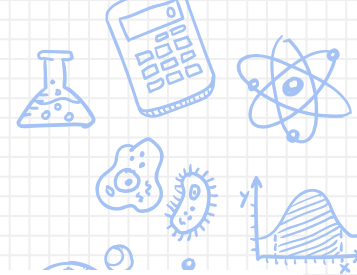
Do This Now!

Our Mole is going to ask us for information.

Choose an event block and drag it in.

Then make your mole ask “How many moles?” and **wait for an answer.**





Do This Now!

Try it in the preview.

What does this do?

Is this useful?

How many moles?



when this sprite clicked

ask How many moles? and wait

3



Do This Now!

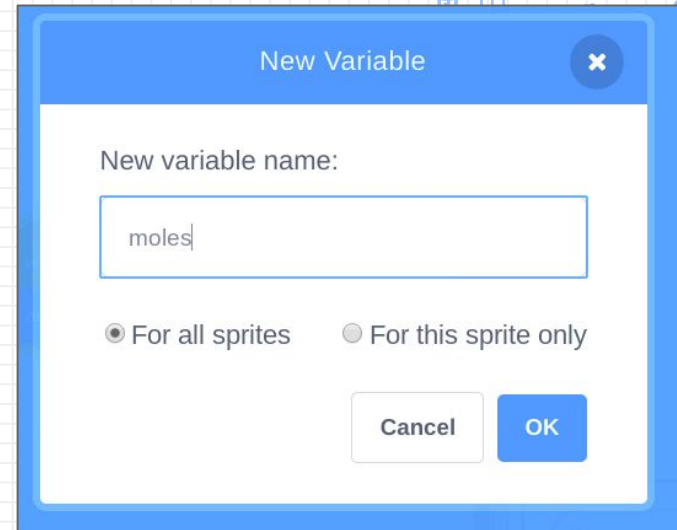
Now let's find a way to **remember your answer** so we can *do* something with it.

We can use **a variable** to do this.

a Variable is a place-holder for something else... like our answer.

In math, we often use a variable called "x".

Let's make a variable and call it "moles".



Do This Now!

Now you should see something like this in your preview:



Good job!

Challenge:

Figure out how to *set the variable “moles”* based on how you answer Mr. Mole’s question.

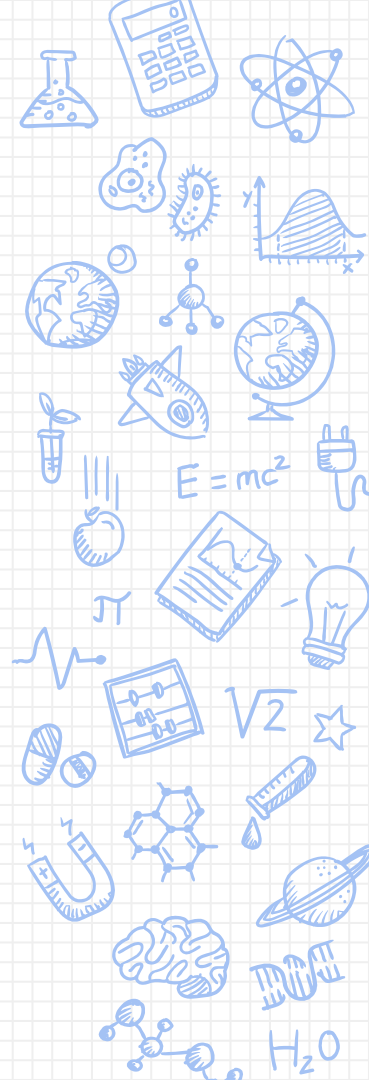
Add blocks to your code and try it out... If you succeed, the number next to “moles” will change.



Are these the blocks you used?



No matter what blocks you used, if you found a way to save the answer in the “moles” variable, **you did it!**



Part 1: Moles to Particles

- ✗ Remember scientific notation:
 - ✗ Every time you multiply by 10, move the decimal over one time. If you run out of digits, you add a zero.
 - 10^{23} moves the decimal over *23 times!*

$$\text{Ex: } 6.02 \times 10^{23} =$$

602,000,000,000,000,000,000,000



Part 1: Moles to Particles

Positive exponents mean the number is getting **LARGER**.

$$1.00 \times 10^5 = 100,000.00$$

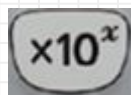
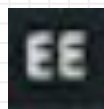
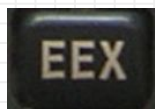
Negative exponents mean the number is getting **SMALLER**.

$$1.00 \times 10^{-5} = 0.00001$$



Part 1: Moles to Particles

- ✗ Remember scientific notation:
 - ✗ In a calculator, the Sci Notation button will add in $\times 10^{##}$ and you enter the ## numbers for the exponent.



These buttons all mean the same thing.

- ✗ When writing in pretty much any code, we can use the letter “E” to represent this too.

$$\text{Ex: } 6.02\text{E}23 = 6.02 \times 10^{23}$$

Because “E” is easier to write than “ $\times 10^{##}$ ”



Part 1: Moles to Particles

SPOILER ALERT!

**Did you do it for yourself yet?
Only click forward if you have...**



Part 1: Moles to Particles

Good job!

when this sprite clicked

ask How many moles? and wait

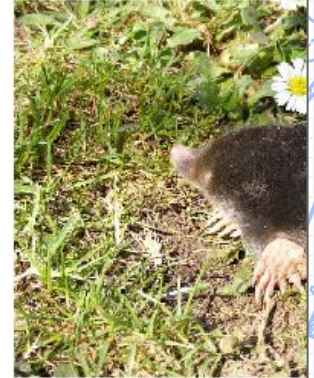
set moles to answer

set particles to answer * 6.02e23



moles 3

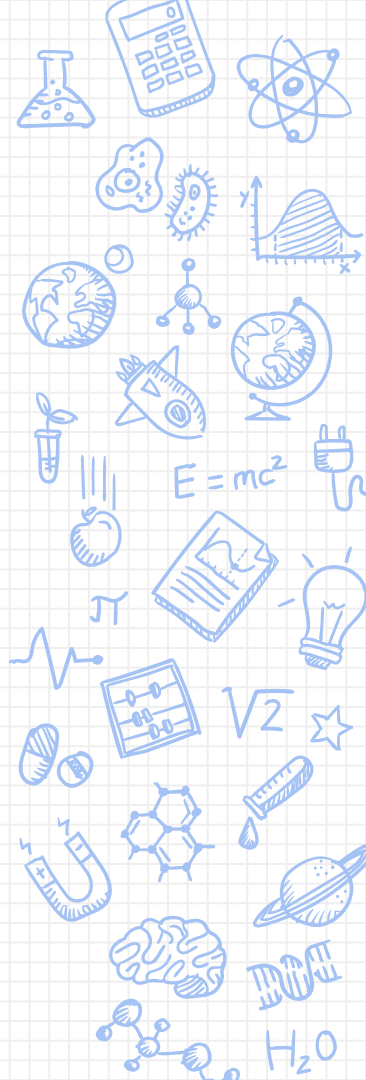
particles 1.806e+24



When you're done,
Give your calculator a title and click



Then post the link to our discussion
board. We'll pick up Part 2 tomorrow!



Sources: Images & Media

- ✘ Slides 4-6: Scratch interface images taken directly from <https://scratch.mit.edu/>
- ✘ Slide 7: Eames Office LLC. (1977). Powers of ten [Video]. Retrieved from <https://www.eamesoffice.com>
- ✘ Slide 8: Wikimedia Commons [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mole_\(animal\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mole_(animal))

