Alice

Learning to program: Part Three
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Camera Control

• Now that we have a great story written for our characters it would be nice to be able to change camera views.

• This can simplify the story and sometimes add dramatic effect
Camera Control

- Lets make the Camera Zoom in on our first character when she talks and then look at the horse while our second character gets on.
Camera Control

- Click on “camera” in your object tree.
- It should have a regular set of methods.
- Insert code into your first method to have the camera face your character while they talk.
Camera Control

• When your second character gets on the horse, you can have the camera face him.

• Finally, have the camera face the horse and press the “N” key to have your horse say “neigh”.

• Play your world to test it.
Dummy Cameras

- You can use the purple arrows on the bottom of your world to move around the camera.

- You can drop a dummy camera wherever you find a view that needs a snapshot.
Dummy Cameras

• Dummy cameras are used to hold a specific view of your world in place while you move the regular camera around

• Click the add objects button on your screen

• Look to the right for a button labeled “more controls”. Click it
Dummy Camera

- We did this earlier in part one but will now review it in more detail.
- Use the purple arrows to move the screen to a new position on your camera.
- We will call this “Horse Position”
Dummy Cameras

• Now click on “drop dummy at camera”.
• This will literally drop a virtual camera where your camera currently is.
Dummy Camera

• Now, what if we want to go back to our original position?
• Go over to your object tree
• There should be a folder called “Dummy Objects”.
• Underneath it will be a list of each dummy you have dropped, in the order that they are dropped

• Note that the first Dummy Camera is named “Original Position”. This was from earlier.
Dummy Camera

• Unfortunately all of your dummy cameras are labeled “dummy”
• You can fix this by right clicking on “dummy” and selecting “rename”.
• You can rename your dummy whatever you would like.
• In this case it is named “Horse Position”.

Dummy Camera

• You can move the camera wherever you would like.
• Now right click on “camera” in your object tree and select methods.
• Click “set point of view to “Dummy Objects/Horse Position”.

![Diagram of camera movement and selection method]
Dummy Camera

• Once you select “Horse Position” your screen should return to the position that it was at when you first dropped the Dummy Camera, for horse close up.

• You can use a Dummy Camera anywhere in the world that you would like.
Dummy Cameras

- Changing the Camera View between Dummy Cameras, by right clicking and choosing “Methods” is useful for positioning things in your world, before it starts.

- If you want the camera view to change during your animation you can drag it into your code, from camera methods.
Practicing with Dummy Camera

• Now try to drop a Dummy Camera in another spot and rename it.
• You can incorporate it into your world later.
• Try swapping between views.
Is Showing/Opacity

- Is showing and opacity both change your objects to make them more or less visible.
- Is showing has two settings. Your object is either visible, or its invisible.
- Opacity works by percentages. You can make something 10% visible, 20% visible, all the way up to 100% visible.
Is Showing

- Select the character that you would like to make invisible.
- Under the properties tab there should be a button called “Is showing”.
- If you select “false” your character should become invisible.
Opacity

- Opacity works in a very similar way to “Is showing”, except you can set an object to an in between stage.

- Try clicking on Opacity and selecting 40%
- Note that your character is now see through
- This works really well for ghost worlds!
3D Text

- Go into “Add Objects”
- Click on the “Create 3D text” Object
3D Text Continued

- Once you click on the 3D text object, a box should pop up to type text into.
- Type a message
- Select ok

- Your text should appear in your world like this
- You can use the positioning keys in the right hand corner to position it.
3D Text

- This is how your text should look when you are done.
- You can set the “is showing” to false after a few seconds
- 3D text works really well for giving instructions at the beginning of the game.
Finishing up

- Now you know the basics of creating a world
- The concepts learned in this world are simple, but you can use them in any world you decide to create
Problems

• Now it's your turn, try completing these things in your world
  – Make an event so that one of your characters becomes invisible.
  – Make an event so that the Horse’s opacity turns to 40%.
  – Drop a Dummy Camera behind your characters and swap between that and Horse Position.