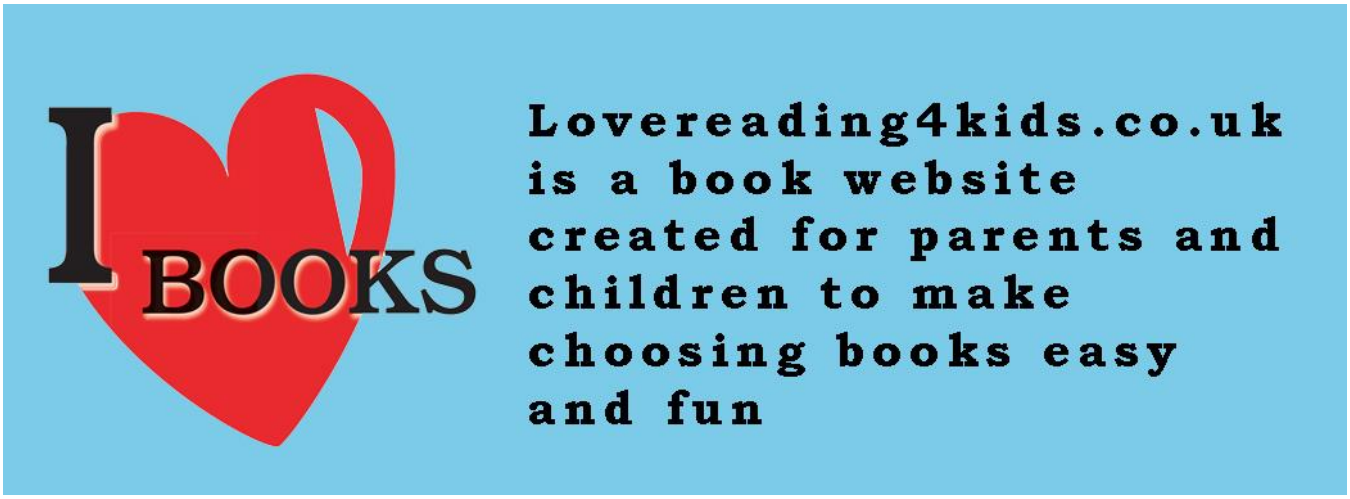


extracts from

Look Inside How Computers Work

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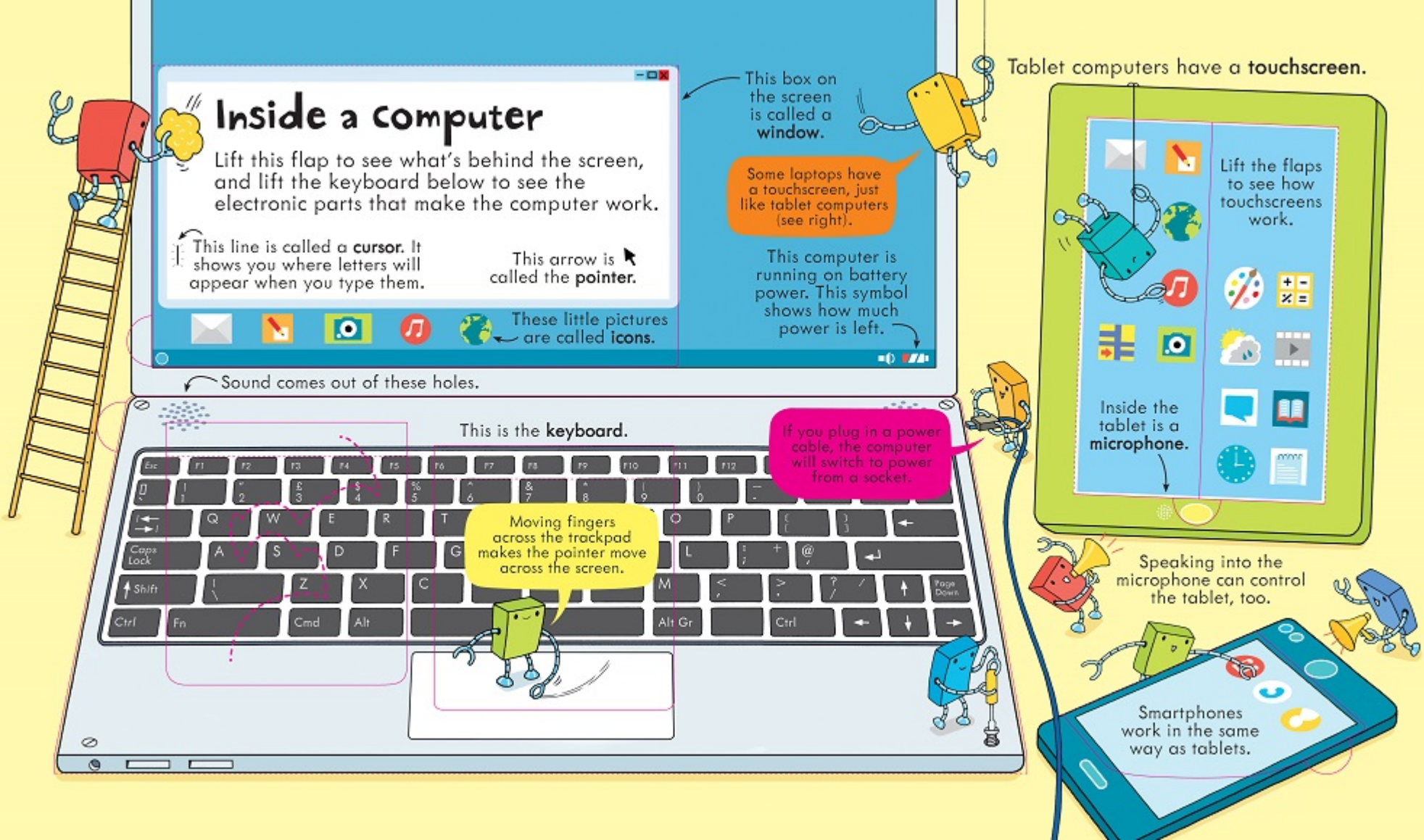
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Inside a computer
Lift this flap to see what's behind the screen, and lift the keyboard below to see the electronic parts that make the computer work.
This line is called a cursor. It shows you where letters will appear when you type them.
This arrow is called the pointer.
This box on the screen is called a window.
Some laptops have a touchscreen, just like tablet computers (see right).
This computer is running on battery power. This symbol shows how much power is left.
These little pictures are called icons.
Sound comes out of these holes.
This is the keyboard.
Moving fingers across the trackpad makes the pointer move across the screen.
If you plug in a power cable, the computer will switch to power from a socket.
Tablet computers have a touchscreen.
Lift the flaps to see how touchscreens work.
Inside the tablet is a microphone.
Speaking into the microphone can control the tablet, too.
Smartphones work in the same way as tablets.

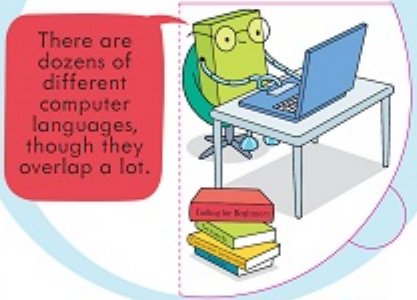
Computers and coding

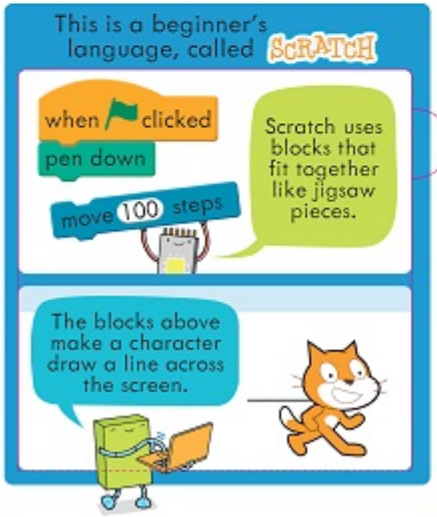
Writing instructions for a computer is known as **coding**. Anyone can do it, but the instructions must be written in a way that the computer can understand.

Computers only understand very clear, precise instructions. Spoken languages aren't very good for this.

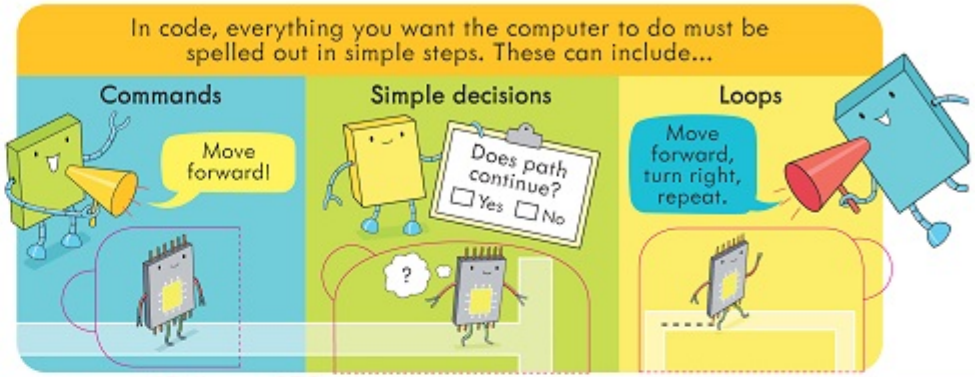




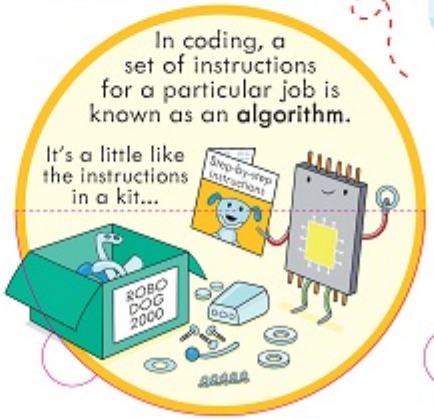




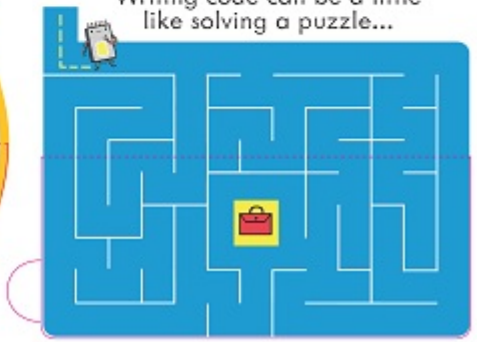












Wired world

Computers all over the world can talk to each other and share information using the **internet** – a network of linked computers.

The first network was created in 1969 and linked just two computers.

The internet allows you to explore shared documents called **webpages.**

Together, these pages form a huge library known as the **World Wide Web.**

WORLD WIDE WEB

You can do all sorts of things on the Web.

I'm doing some shopping.

I'm listening to music.

To go on the Web, you open an app known as a **browser.**

You can use a special page called a **search engine** to find what you want.

Search
Best books about computers
GO

I'm watching a movie.

Here's what happens when you visit a webpage:

In your house

1. You type in the name of the webpage.

www.usborne.com
GO

2. Your computer connects to a box called a **router.**

In your town

3. The router connects to a kind of computer called a **gateway.**

Across the world

4. The gateway connects to another computer called a **server,** that is part of the internet.

5. The server looks around the internet to find the right webpage.

The network of servers, and the connections between them, *are* the internet.

Lift the flap to see what happens next.

How stuff moves across the internet

To send information, servers and routers break it up into little pieces called **packets.**