

IDRA VisionCoders™

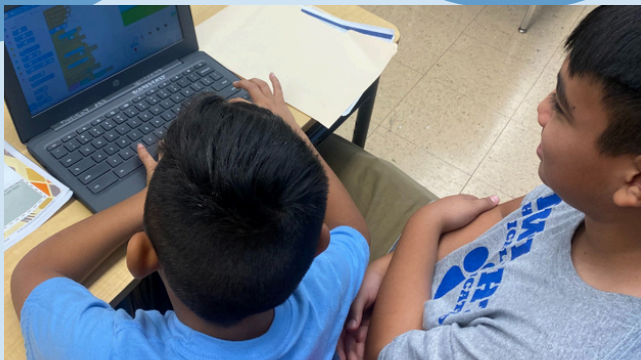
IDRA VisionCoders is an elective course for eighth-grade students. Participating students who are in at-risk situations become software designers who create educational games for elementary school students (their “buddies”), who they also mentor. Throughout the year, students design games based on their buddy’s learning needs.

VisionCoders students...

- ✓ Learn how to code and build games.
- ✓ Mentor and develop video games for kinder and first grade students.
- ✓ Work with mentors and industry professionals.
- ✓ Lead an end-of-year showcase.

“My daughter is already talking about going to UTSA, and she’s not even in high school yet. The influence of this program got her thinking about going to college.”

– mother of 8th Grade VisionCoders student



Why VisionCoders?

- Fewer than 1% of adults in South San Antonio work in computer-related fields. But these are the fastest-growing, highest-paying, most in-demand jobs.
- Tech workers are happier with their jobs and earn higher salaries.
- Computing jobs are the #1 source of new wages.

“This program helped me decide that I want to pursue coding as a career.”

– 8th Grade VisionCoders student

Serving 450 students in 16 schools in 2023-24 & 2024-25

Using asset-based approaches to STEM-Computer Science education the IDRA VisionCoders program builds-in opportunities for student inquiry and outside experiences that are exemplary practices for social-emotional learning and student engagement.

Three embedded components in the VisionCoders program include educational field trips, mentorship by STEM professionals and college students, and access to paid summer internships. IDRA trains VisionCoders teachers to teach block programming and video game design through Scratch and Code.org platforms. And we provide assistance throughout the school year.

VisionCoders is a field-initiated, research-based program funded by the U.S. Department of Education. Students do not need to purchase supplies or a computer.



Learn More! <https://idra.news/IDRA.VisionCoders>

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