PRESS RELEASE

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Classroom Antics Helps Kids Gain a Competitive Advantage

In support of Hour of Code[™], <u>Classroom Antics</u> a local area business, offered eight free one-hour introductory coding events for kids in grades 1-8 on December 3 & 10. These events were fun and educational and opened kids minds up to what they can create with code.

These programs were intended to be an introduction to computer science and help kids determine their interest in the subject area. Kids who attended the free programming events were able to develop their own computer program using Scratch or video game using Kodu. All events were held at Classroom Antics' Activity Center in North Royalton, OH.

Classroom Antics offered these programs for free to children in the area because they believe kids access to programming is very important because the opportunities it can create for their future. According to Code.org, in 2015, 7 million job openings in the U.S. were in occupations that highly value coding skills. And, no matter what kids do when they grow up, whether they go into medicine, business, education, or the arts, knowing how to create with technology will give them a competitive edge.

Although these sessions were some of the first programs offered in their new Activity Center, Classroom Antics Program Manager, Toby Foote states, "the success of these events and our belief in the importance of STEM education for children are key reasons we plan on offering more enrichment programs at the Activity Center in the future."

Classroom Antics is a leading provider of STEM learning programs for kids, located in Cleveland, Ohio. The organization is focused on giving students hands-on experiences that enhance learning, increase creativity, and encourage collaboration. They currently offer educational programs in over 30 locations throughout Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati, and Northern Kentucky. For more information about Classroom Antics, visit www.ClassroomAntics.com or call 800-595-3776.

The Hour of Code™ is a nationwide initiative by Computer Science Education Week and Code.org to introduce millions of students to one hour of computer science and computer programming.