flvs

For Immediate Release   **Contact:** Tania Clow, 407-513-3627

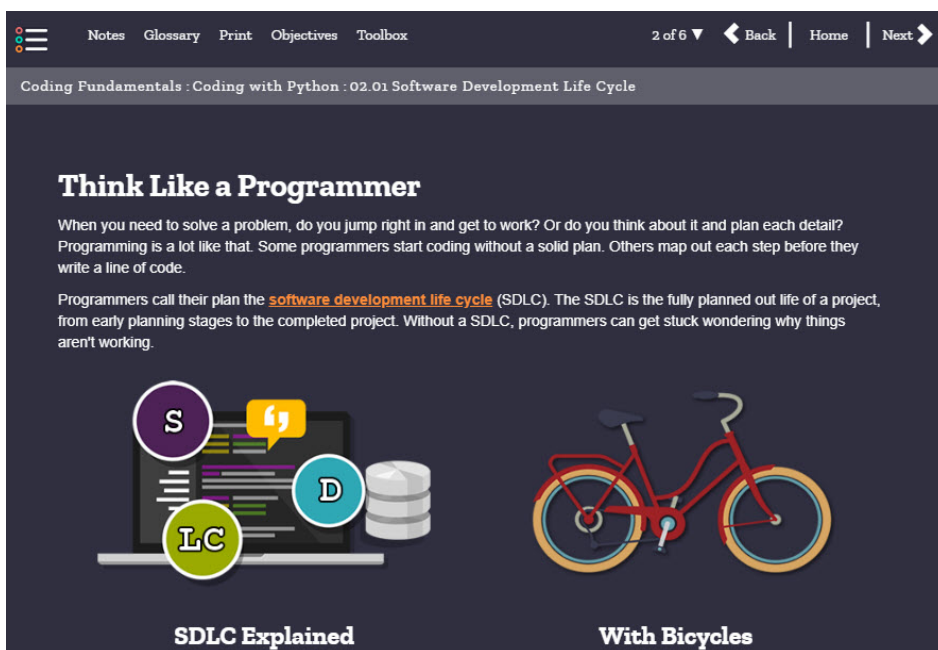## FLVS Launches New Coding Course for Middle Schoolers
Computer Science Education Week is Dec. 9-15

Orlando, Fla. (Dec. 9, 2019) – In celebration of Computer Science Education Week (Dec. 9-15, 2019), Florida Virtual School (FLVS), the online statewide public school district, has opened enrollment for a new career and technical education (CTE) middle school course, Middle/Junior (M/J) Coding Fundamentals.

According to Code.org, 67 percent of all new jobs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) are in computing. In addition, 90 percent of parents want their child to study computer science.

In M/J Coding Fundamentals, which fulfills a half-credit elective, students will learn about technology used in everyday life through an introduction to the basics of computer science. Students will discover how to build a website using HTML and will use the programming language Python to create and problem solve actual computer programs.

Through engaging videos and interactives, simplified coding instructions, and software embedded in the course, students will have the opportunity to create their own text-based game using Python. Below is an image from the course.

"This is our first CTE coding course offered specifically for middle school students," said Martin Kelly, Senior Director of Curriculum Development for FLVS. "The course serves as a good steppingstone for our high school CTE courses such as Digital Information Technology, Foundations of Programming, and Procedural Programming."

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FLVS also offers students with an avid interest in STEM, several CTE clubs where they can develop their leadership skills, learn about different careers and participate in robotic challenges. FLVS clubs include Coding, Technology, STEAM/Science, and Future Business Leaders of America.

Students are able to enroll in M/J Coding Fundamentals now with a start date as early as January. To learn more and to enroll in the course, students should visit https://www.flvs.net/mj-coding.

About Florida Virtual School
Florida Virtual School® (FLVS®) is a fully accredited, statewide public school district offering more than 190 courses to Kindergarten-12 students. Its certified teachers use a variety of personalized instructional programs to create individualized educational plans for every student. Since 1997, FLVS students have successfully completed more than 4.6 million semester enrollments. FLVS also provides its courseware and expertise to online and blended learning programs across the nation. Services include content licensing, FLVS Global School, District Virtual Schools, digital learning labs, and professional development. As a not-for-profit, FLVS reinvests supplemental funds into the development of new educational technologies and the creation of the highest-quality courses, benefiting Florida students. To learn more, visit www.flvs.net.

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