

FOOD CHASE GAME

In this unit, you will create an animated game where you chase food and grow bigger!

DESIGNER

- 1 Login to the MIT App Inventor website (<http://ai2.appinventor.mit.edu>) and open the FoodChase_template project provided by your teacher.
- 2 For this game, you will add six sprites - 2 **Ball** sprites, and 4 **ImageSprites**. They all work the same way. **Ball** sprites are automatically round. **ImageSprites** let you change shape and appearance by attaching images. Look below at the Properties panel for an **ImageSprite** to become familiar with each property.

Interval is how often the ImageSprite moves. 100 means every 1/10th of a second. 1000 means every second!

Rotates here is checked, meaning the ImageSprite rotates according to its heading.

X and Y are the positions of the ImageSprite (before it starts moving).

Z is not used in this app.

Heading is the direction of the ImageSprite (270 degrees is down).

Width and Height can be set to resize your sprite.

Picture can be set to an image file uploaded to your project.

Speed is how fast the ImageSprite moves each Interval. Here it moves 10 pixels.

PaintColor lets you change the Ball's color.

Radius lets you change the size of the Ball.

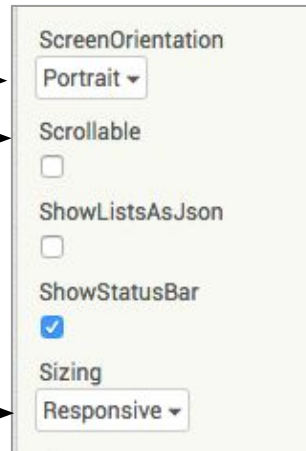
3 Note that the Properties for **Ball** components are very similar to **ImageSprites**, except for a few related to color and size.

The image shows two side-by-side screenshots of the MIT App Inventor Properties panel. The left panel is for a component named 'Food2' (an ImageSprite). It has properties: Enabled (checked), Heading (0), Height (30 pixels...), Width (30 pixels...), Interval (100), Picture (Cheese-310.png...), Rotates (checked), Speed (10), Visible (checked), X (44), Y (45), and Z (1.0). The right panel is for a component named 'RedBall' (a Ball). It has properties: Enabled (checked), Heading (0), Interval (100), PaintColor (Red), and Radius (2). Various text boxes with arrows point to specific properties in both panels, explaining their functions.

SCREEN1

5 Set the properties for **Screen1** so the animations appear and work well. Click on **Screen1** in the Components panel, and set its:

- *ScreenOrientation* to **Portrait**
- Uncheck the *Scrollable* property.
- *Sizing* to **Responsive**



Scrollable property allow the user to scroll on the screen if checked. No scrolling allowed if unchecked.



Responsive
Sizing changes the size of components based on the resolution of the device.

DESIGNER

The app screen should look something like this:



THE APP CHALLENGE

Using the template provided, make a game app with the following behavior:

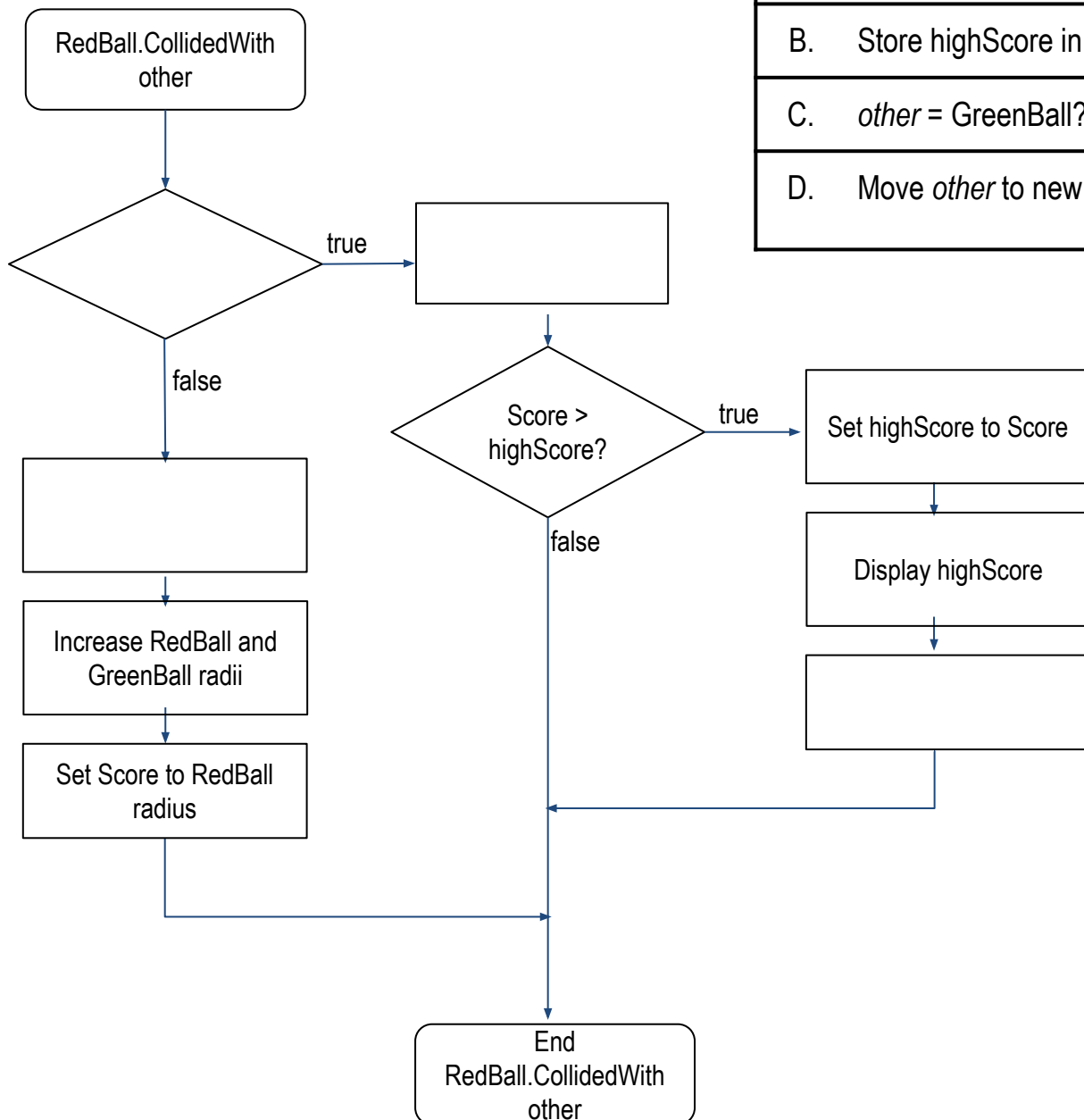
- ☐ RedBall and GreenBall start in random positions, with a radius of 2.
- ☐ Food ImageSprites appear in random positions on the screen.
- ☐ When user flings their finger on the Canvas, the RedBall's Speed and Heading will reflect the speed and heading of the fling action.
- ☐ RedBall grows larger every time it "eats" a Food ImageSprite. GreenBall also grows when RedBall "eats" Food, but at a slower rate.
- ☐ When a Food ImageSprite is eaten it appears in a different random position.
- ☐ GreenBall moves in a random path around the screen, bouncing off edges.
- ☐ When RedBall and GreenBall collide, game is over.
 - ☐ Notify user and allow them to play again or quit.
 - ☐ If user decides to play again
 - ☐ Reset all Balls and ImageSprites to size and random positions.
 - ☐ Use a procedure called Restart to perform the resetting.
- ☐ Displayed Score is the current radius of RedBall.
- ☐ When a game ends, if Score is greater than the current High Score, replace High Score with the current Score.
- ☐ Store High Score in TinyDB, so that when the app starts, the current High Score is displayed.

FLOWCHART OF REDBALL.COLLIDEDWITH

1

With your partner, look at the following flowchart and fill in the missing blocks with the correct letter, according to this table.

- | | |
|----|-----------------------------------|
| A. | Notify user game is over |
| B. | Store highScore in TinyDB |
| C. | <i>other</i> = GreenBall? |
| D. | Move <i>other</i> to new position |



Choose Ways to Extend Your App

Here are a
few features you
could add if you
want to expand
your app



Add sounds! One
for eating food
and another for
losing game

Make the
GreenBall move
faster as time
goes by

Make the Food
Sprites move too

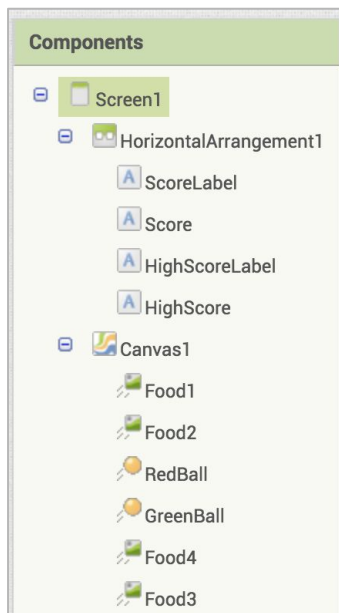
What other ideas
do you have?

COMPUTATIONAL THINKING CONCEPTS and PRACTICES

The following are the Computational Thinking Concepts learned in this unit.

Food Chase Game

1. Naming/Variables:



initialize global **highScore** to 0

call TinyDB1 .StoreValue
tag "FoodChaseHighScore"
valueToStore get global highScore

2. Events:

when Canvas1 .Flung
x y speed heading xvel yvel flungSprite
do

when Notifier1 .AfterChoosing
choice
do

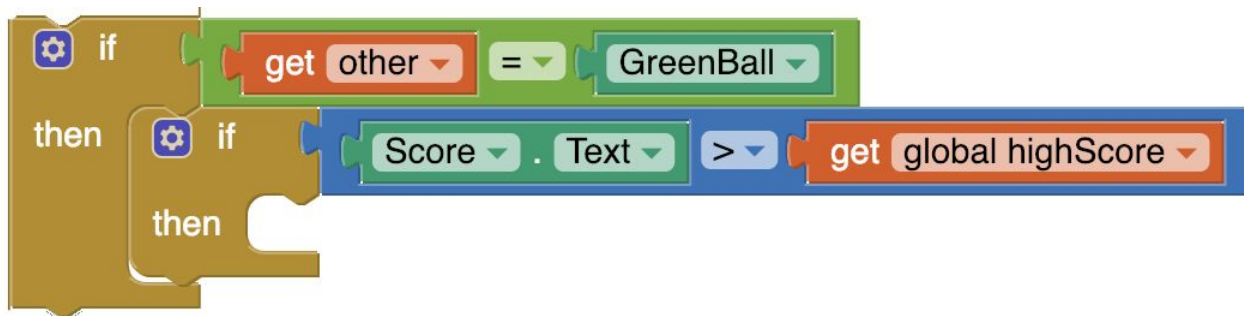
when GreenBall .EdgeReached
edge
do

COMPUTATIONAL THINKING CONCEPTS and PRACTICES

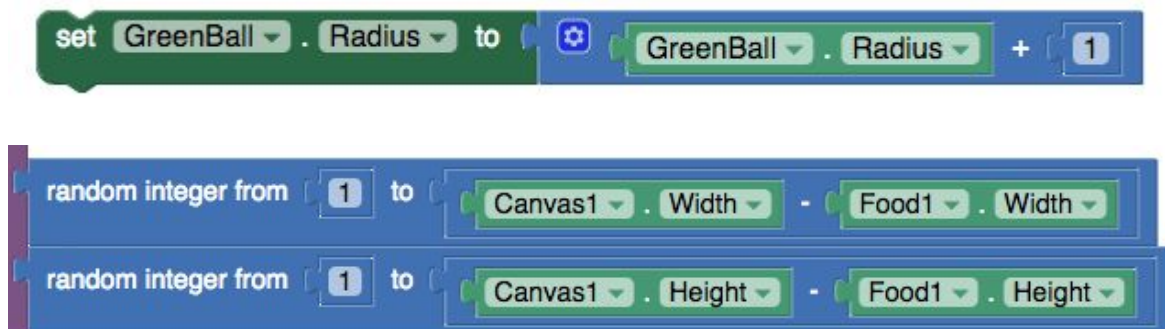
The following are the Computational Thinking Concepts learned in this unit.

Food Chase Game

3. Conditionals



4. Operators



5. Abstraction and modularization (procedures)



COMPUTATIONAL THINKING CONCEPTS and PRACTICES

The following are the Computational Thinking Concepts and Practices used in this unit.

Food Chase Game

6. Manipulation of data and elementary data structures



7. Testing

- ☐ Test your app! Your high score should display correctly, even if you close the app and open it again!

