



Testing the micro:bit at home is easy because the board can be programmed via a webpage.

“micro:bit” as an introduction to programming

My teacher (D.Bittner) gave me a micro:bit to explore the board from the perspective of a student with the goal to evaluate if a micro:bit can be used in school to teach programming.

I do not have any experience with “*java*” or “*python*” thus I only used the “*JavaScript Blocks Editor*” from the micro:bit-homepage, which takes effectively no time to setup. This tool trains the way of thinking and the logic a programmer should have but does not require a programming language. This is especially useful if you are just starting to program or if you not old enough to understand a full programming language. The little simulation of the board in the editor is very useful as well.

The board itself has a variety of sensors included but if you want to use its full potential (I²C, ...) you have to use the optional dock or do some soldering work. The fact that you have to buy a dock to use the micro:bit with a breadboard is not that great but at least it has the option of expanding.

Conclusion:

The micro:bit is one of the best options if you would like to have an easy entry into the world of microcontrollers without having to solder, buy extra stuff (like sensors, ...) or even learn a programming language. If you want to dive deeper, want to learn to build electric circuits and can use a programming language you can also use an Arduino, that may require more work but is cheaper especially if you use a knockoff from China.

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