These debugging tips will help you keep moving when you get stuck!

**Work to Avoid Mistakes**

- Read the directions.
- What is the goal of the puzzle?
- Take it slow and go one step at a time.
- Can you talk about the problem in your own words?
- Were you given any code to start?
  - What does it do?
  - Why do you think it’s there?

**Debugging**

- Look for problems each step of the way.
- Describe what was supposed to happen.
- Describe what is going wrong.
- Does the difference between what was supposed to happen and what did happen give you any clues?
- Fix one thing at a time, then describe how the result changed.
- Try leaving “breadcrumbs” in your program. You can put clues inside your code (like having your program “say” something) to let you know when each chunk runs.
- Try doing each task as its own chunk, then put all of the pieces together at the end so it is easier to see what each thing does.
- Try at least three ways of fixing problems before you ask for help.
- Talk to a friend. Maybe one of your classmates can help you figure out where your plan goes awry.