Story text for Introducing Marty Blocks Jr

“I’ve done it!” shouted Archie.

“What is it?” asked a group of villagers. They were excited to hear what new development Archie had concocted.

“I have developed a way to write longer instructions for Marty, instructions that use pictures that mean something. We can call these symbols or icons. The new way will allow us to snap together lots of commands for Marty to make a program. Programs can get complicated so I have done my best to make it so that anyone can write a program without needing to know any complicated words. I’d like to show you an example of what Marty can now do.”

*Show Marty performing a sequence of movements in order –flash an image of the icon for the action when it occurs.*

“Wow,” said the villagers. “That’s really impressive, we can’t wait to learn more about the different commands!”

“Try some movement arrows, first, to see how far Marty needs to walk to reach a goal” suggested Archie, “Then we can try some more complicated actions as we get more confident.”

*Share the basic movement blocks with learners, do not highlight the numbers at the bottom of some of the blocks, yet. The value there, called an argument, will be the feature of a future lesson, some further discussion is in the teacher guide.*