



Contents

Foreword	ix
Introduction	1
My Computer Science Story	1
Computer Science Becomes Relevant in Schools.....	2
The Inspiration for This Book	3
Who is This Book for?.....	4
How to Navigate and Use This Book	6

PART

1

Planning and Building Student Capacity for Robotics

1. Robotics: Introduction and Applications	10
Examples of Robots and Their Use	11
Robotics in Schools and Teaching with Robotics.....	13
Planning Steps and Considerations.....	15

2. Planning for Robotics: Set Yourself up for Success..... 15

 Do Not Go at the Learning Alone—Join a PLN!..... 19

 Access to Edtech, Advocacy,
 Grants, and Equity 19

3. Teaching Foundational Knowledge and Skills for Robotics 23

 Learning Robotics is a Journey, Not a Mad Dash 25

4. Robotics and Computational Thinking 28

 How CT Differs from CS..... 30

 ISTE Computational Thinking Competencies..... 32

 Start Teaching Computational Thinking
 with Unplugged Lessons 36

Lesson *Computational Thinking* 37

5. Robotics and Programming Demystified 45

 Robotics Demystified in Four Steps 45

 Programming Demystified in Four Steps..... 49

PART
2 **Robotics in the Content Areas**

6. Evidence for Robotics in the Classroom 58

 Empirical Evidence for Educational
 Robotics in the Classroom 58

 Robotics in the Classroom—Teacher Examples 60

7. Robotics in ELA 64

 Robotics an Entry to 21st Century Learning in ELA..... 65

Contents

Pick the Right Tool for Your ELA Classroom.....	69
Introduction to Cue by Wonder Workshop.....	71
Wonder Workshop.....	71
8. Robotics in Mathematics.....	80
Elementary: Using Robots to Make Algebraic and Geometric Connections and Develop Habits of Mind.....	82
Middle School: Ratios and Proportional Relationships.....	84
Pick the Right Tool for Your Math Classroom.....	86
Lesson <i>Time, Speed and Distance Get Sphero to the Bank</i>	88
9. Science in Schools.....	93
Robotics in Science.....	94
Early Elementary: Using Robotics to Do Science.....	98
Grades 4–8: Using Robotics to Teach Physics.....	98
How Mathematics and Computational Thinking are Applied in Science.....	100
Pick the Right Tool for Your Science Classroom.....	103
Lesson <i>LEGO Object Detection</i>	104
10. Robotics in Social Studies.....	114
Creating Alignment between Social Studies with the CSTA K–12 Computer Science Standards.....	115
Unpacking the Thematic Strands for Social Studies.....	115
Pick the Right Tool for Your Social Studies Classroom.....	118
Lesson <i>KIBO Robotics and Floor Maps—Our Community, Our World and The Historical Journey (or The Travels of Marco KIBO)</i>	121

PART
3 Strategies and Approaches for Teaching
Robotics and Computational Thinking

11. Robotics, Constructivist Learning, and Infusing the Learning Sciences	128
Using Constructivism to Teach CS.....	129
12. Project Based Learning (PBL) and Robotics	134
Why Project Based Learning (PBL) and What is it?	135
Frameworks and Model of Excellence	135
The Computational Thinkers Project.....	138
13. Robotics Outside of School	148
Getting Started	148
Have a Vision for Your Intended Outcomes	150
Conclusion	152
APPENDIX A: Resources	153
Professional Development in Pedagogy	153
Professional Development in Computer Science and STEM.....	154
Publications	155
How-to Blogs.....	156
Podcasts.....	156
APPENDIX B: ISTE Standards for Students	158
References	162
Index	165