Assessment of sUAS for Digital Literacy

Educational Requirements

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Introduction
The Alabama Unmanned Systems Operations Mastery for Educators (AUSOME) is an FAA sponsored STEM education program focused on introducing educators to drone technology as a teaching aid in the classroom. This RCEU research built off of the AUSOME program to look more deeply into the application of drones to satisfy computer and digital literacy requirements in the Alabama Dept. of Education standards.

Key Findings
In the Alabama Digital Literacy and Computer Science course study five main content standards are outlined. [1]
- Computational Thinker: Students are challenged to compute different missions, but it is up to them how that is done.
- Citizen of Digital Culture: Students will search online for the code required to send commands to the Tello EDU.
- Global Collaborator: Students will collaborate with one another to write the scripts to accomplish the missions.
- Computer Analyst: While writing the different scripts for the missions' students will have to debug the programs.
- Innovative Designer: By having students search online for the code at the beginning of the lesson they will use various digital tools to accomplish this task.

Conclusions
For ten weeks during the summer in 2022, over 250 teachers attending Space Camp for Educators were presented the sample lessons plans created from this research. These lessons include:
- Lesson One: Using the Tello EDU drone and the block programming language DroneBlocks students are taught the fundamentals of writing a script to send commands to the drone.
- Lesson Two: Using the programming language Python students will write similar scripts to that of lesson one but manually type the commands rather than using prewritten code blocks.
- Lesson Three: Using Python students will write more complex scripts that utilize the Tello’s built-in camera.

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References: