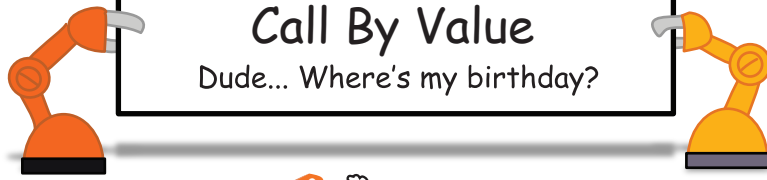


Let's take a look at this code. Why won't it work?

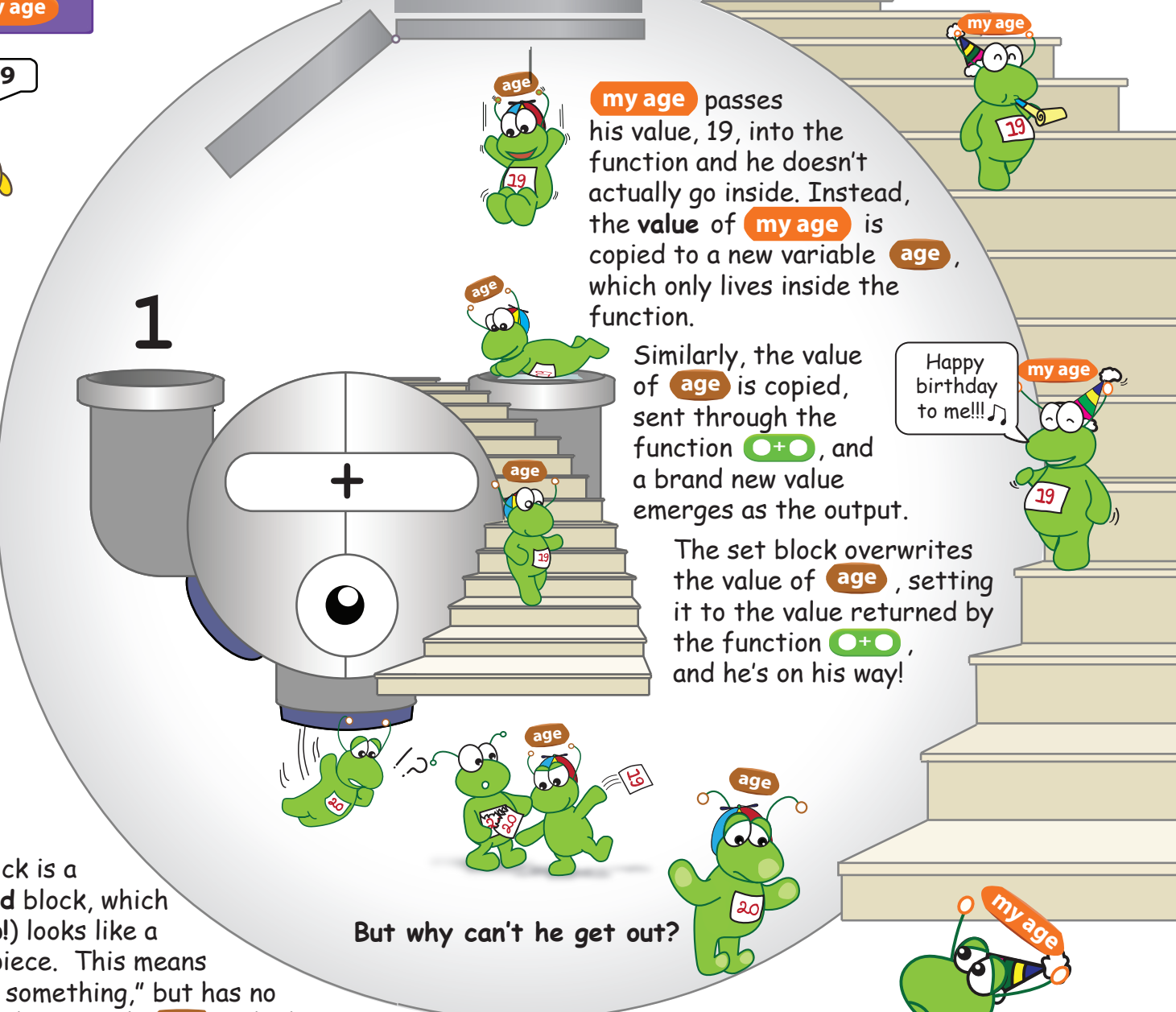
```
Have Birthday age
set age to age + 1
set my age to 19
Have Birthday my age
say my age
```



Call By Value
Dude... Where's my birthday?



The **my age** variable wants to increment, but still holds a value of 19, not 20. Why doesn't this block change the variable's value? Let's take a closer look inside...



my age passes his value, 19, into the function and he doesn't actually go inside. Instead, the value of **my age** is copied to a new variable **age**, which only lives inside the function.

Similarly, the value of **age** is copied, sent through the function **+**, and a brand new value emerges as the output.

The set block overwrites the value of **age**, setting it to the value returned by the function **+**, and he's on his way!

This block is a **command** block, which (in Snap!) looks like a puzzle piece. This means it "does something," but has no output. The variable **age** with the value of 20 is stuck inside, and is not returned.

But why can't he get out?

Our poor **my age** variable remains unchanged by the block, and does not get to have his Birthday. 😞

