

# Video Game Designer

You know those video games you love to play? It takes creative people with high-tech skills to develop them. These days video games aren't just for playing anymore. New technologies like artificial intelligence and virtual reality are now used to create learning simulations used by schools, businesses, the military, and government. So, it's game on for talented video game designers!

*(Feel free to use the back of this sheet for longer answers)*

## You Mean I Can Get Paid for This?

Reality check! Developing popular video games involves more than playing games all day. In fact, a lot of teamwork and very impressive high-tech skills go into developing games that people of all ages love to play. Sure, video game designers tend to be big-time video game fans. But wanting to play games all day will only take you so far. Knowing how to turn a good game idea into an irresistible product is the only way to make it in this competitive career. Top skills for game designers start with good oral and written communication skills (so pay attention in those language arts classes!). Other requirements include good basic design and drawing skills, experience using animation software, and at least some programming skills.

## CHALLENGE #1: *If you had this career...*

What kind of training would you need?

Where could you find a job?

How much money could you earn?

Who would you help and how would you make a difference?

Why would (or wouldn't) you like doing a job like this?



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## CHALLENGE #2: *Think Tank*

Think of a tough topic you recently learned about that was hard to understand or kind of boring. Now think about a favorite video game. What is it about the video game that makes you want to play it all the time? How can you use a similar approach to make learning about that tough topic easier--and lots more fun?

Come up with a name and brief description of a game idea and write it on on the back of this paper. Then use words and pictures to create a storyboard that show the sequence of action in your game. Your storyboard should include a step-by-step plan to take users from clueless about the topic to expert!

