

# CAREER BRIEF

(Grades K-2)

## ART DIRECTOR – VIDEO GAME INDUSTRY

*This Career Brief gives students a snapshot of the career they are about to explore. Please read and review the Career Brief with your students prior to the Spark Encounter.*

### TEACHER/PARENT DIRECTION

Review this Career Brief with your students to give them an idea of what an Art Director is and what their tasks are. Spur discussion by asking questions and offering feedback.

### WHAT IS AN ART DIRECTOR?

An Art Director for a video game company is in charge of all the art that goes inside of building a video game. They create all the characters and worlds that you see when you play video games. They choose what the characters look like and their personalities (how brave, kind and helpful they are). Art Directors also create places the characters live in, like a forest or in outer space. The Art Director works with a team of artists, animators and designers to help create awesome video games.

### WHAT DOES AN ART DIRECTOR DO?

- Helps their team make an amazing video game.
- Makes sure the team's artwork looks great and is on time.
- Listens to what people think about the game and make changes to make the game even better.
- Delivers the finished video game to the Producer and later to players all over the world.

**\*Fun Fact:** Did you know that MOCAP (motion capture) is the technology that makes characters look and move like humans? Markers are placed on an actor's body to track their movements so they can create characters that move just like them.

### EDUCATION

- Most Art Directors have a college degree in graphic design, game art, game design or fine art.
- Art schools have classes for Art Directors like drawing, painting, graphic design, art history, writing and business.

### TRAINING

- Be an expert in computer software.
- Experience with graphic design, math and computer science.

### SKILLS

- Art skills, like drawing and painting.
- Business skills so they can manage their team.
- Speaking skills so they know how to talk to their team.



# CAREER BRIEF

## (Grades K-2)

### NARRATIVE WRITER – VIDEO GAME INDUSTRY

*This Career Brief gives students a snapshot of the career they are about to explore. Please read and review the Career Brief with your students prior to the Spark Encounter.*

#### WHAT IS A NARRATIVE WRITER?

A narrative writer creates the story for a video game. They also write what characters say to each other throughout the video game.

#### WHAT DOES A NARRATIVE WRITER DO?

- Writes the story for a video game.
- Creates the video game characters, giving them personalities and missions to complete.
- Writes how characters talk to each other during the video game.
- Creates scenes to show where the characters live (like a city or a whole new world).

***\*Fun Fact:** Angry Birds was made by a team of four people and was completed in eight months. Angry Birds was the first mobile game to hit one billion downloads*

#### EDUCATION

- A college bachelor's degree is needed
- An education in creative writing and story writing.

#### TRAINING

- Overall knowledge of video game stories.
- Two years of professional writing experience.

#### SKILLS

- Creative writing skills.
- Storytelling skills.
- Organizing skills.

Waka waka waka, waka waka waka, waka waka waka.  
— Pac-Man