# The Numbers Inside Video Games





# Reverse Engineering a Video Game

Take turns playing the Ninja Cat Game in pairs.

Turn to <u>Notice and Wonder</u>.

- 1. Write down what you notice about the game.
- 2. Write down what you wonder about the game?



### Reverse Engineering a Video Game

#### Complete <u>Reverse Engineer a video game</u> with your partner.

# Reverse Engineering a Video Game

- If the x- and y-coordinates are each numbers, how many numbers does it take to represent a single frame of the video game?
- How are those numbers changing or varying as the game plays?
  When do they increase? Decrease?
- How many numbers would we need if the dog could also move up and down?
- How many numbers would we need to have a two-player game?
- How many numbers would we need if the entire game was in 3d?
- How many numbers would we need to make a modern game?



#### What are your favorite video games?

Let's focus on one of the games we just brainstormed.

- How long do you think it took to create that game?
- How many people do you think it takes to create a game like that?
- How much money does it take to create a game like that?

Optional: Use the Internet to research these questions and compare the actual numbers to your estimates.

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There's a lot of variability, especially between game consoles and cell phone games! These are just a few examples.

Title	Time	Team Size	Budget
Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2	2 years	500+	50m+
Final Fantasy VII	3 years	100+	40-45m
Shadow of the Tomb Raider	3+ years	100+	75m+



#### Are we likely to create games like the ones you researched?