THURSDAY, MAY 5TH, 2016 – 9:00AM

MINECRAFT BASICS

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OUTLINE

1. Overview
2. Demo
3. Minecraft Platforms
4. Minecraft in Libraries
5. Q&A

WHAT IS MINECRAFT?

According to the Official Minecraft Wiki:
"Minecraft is a *sandbox construction* game created by Mojang AB founder Markus Persson... Gameplay involves players interacting with the game world by placing and breaking various types of blocks in a three-dimensional environment. In this environment, players can build creative structures, creations, and artwork on multiplayer servers and singleplayer worlds across multiple game modes."

A BRIEF HISTORY

- **2009:**
Markus Persson ("*Notch*") develops the prototype for Minecraft

- **September 18, 2010:**
A Minecraft server crashes due to a massive increase in signups — *Minecraft is a victim of its own popularity…*

- **November 2011:**
Minecraft gets ported to Android and iOS mobile devices

- Minecraft is officially released

- Jens Bergensten ("*Jeb*") takes over, and begins creating the Minecraft we know and love today

POPULARITY

- *Over 100 million registered users*

- *Sold 17 million PC copies*
  becoming the best-selling PC game of all time

- *Sold approximately 60 million copies total*
  making it one of the best-selling video games of all time

POPULARITY

...basically, it sold a LOT of copies...

Notch's New Home
(He outbid Jay-Z and Beyonce for it)

WHY IS MINECRAFT SO POPULAR?

- Simple core concepts: **building, surviving, mining**
- Fun to play alone - the world is almost endless
- Fun to *play cooperatively with friends*
- Can build together or fight each other and monsters
- There are various types of game mechanics and different things to encounter every time you play

CREATIVITY

- *Minecraft is often compared to Legos*, because the game inspires players to use their imaginations to create and build.

- Minecraft building competitions are becoming increasingly popular

- The Immersive Education Initiative (iED) recently hosted an international "Minecraft Builders Bowl" open to students of all ages. The championship round took place at the iED conference in Paris.

- Libraries can host either simple or complex building competitions and offer fun prizes

CREATIVITY

- Players can program their own *modifications (mods)* to the game

- Many camps and afterschool programs are offering classes on Minecraft. For example, the iD Tech Camp at Adelphi University teaches children Minecraft modding.

CREATIVITY

- *Skins* - Players can create their own "outfits" for their Minecraft characters, to give them some individuality.

- Kids love the personal touches you can add to the game.

- Minecraft is all about *expressing individuality*

MINECRAFT LINGO

- **Blocks:** Make up the world. Can be mined and used to build structures

- **Biomes:** The various regions of the world. Each has its own structures and weather effects. *Some examples:* Forest, Taiga, Desert, Beach, and Plains

- **Craft / Smelting / Enchanting / Game Mechanics**

- **Level-Up System / XP**

  - **Players collect "experience orbs" when they kill monsters and mine materials**

MINECRAFT LINGO

- **Creepers:** One of the most volatile (and popular) mobs in the game. Creepers explode when provoked.

- **Ender World & Nether World:** Dimensions within the game that players can access by crafting portals.

- **PE:** Stands for Minecraft Pocket Edition.

- **Steve:** The name of the default main player.

- The *Official Minecraft Wiki* is a great source for learning more of Minecraft's lingo

MINECRAFT LINGO

Mobs: Living creatures in the game.

- One of the most iconic features of Minecraft

- **Passive mobs** (like pigs, sheep, and cows) won't attack the player

- **Tamable mobs** (wolves, ocelots, horses) can be tamed and will follow the player. Horses can be ridden with a saddle.

- **Hostile mobs** (like creepers and zombies) will attack the player

QUICK DEMO

MINECRAFT PLATFORMS

Mobile Devices

- Minecraft Pocket Edition (PE) is available for $6.99 on both Android and iOS devices. (Supports tablets from the last 3 years)

- Can't connect to PC / Edu Servers
    - Currently, only the Windows 10 beta version supports cross-platform play

- Users just connect to each other via Wi-Fi

MINECRAFT PLATFORMS

Gaming Consoles

- Minecraft is currently available on Xbox 360, Xbox One, PlayStation 3, PlayStation 4, PlayStation Vita and Wii U

- **Can play** local multiplayer / co-op

- **Can't connect** to PC / Edu Servers

- Minecraft **Story Mode Game** (*we do not recommend this in library setting*)

MINECRAFT PLATFORMS

Gaming Consoles – Wii U Edition

- Wii U Edition was released in December 2015

- Up to 4 players can play at the same time

- *Note* – Only the Wii U Pro controllers and Wii U Gamepad are compatible. The Wii Classic controller will not work.

MINECRAFT FOR COMPUTERS

- **Clients and Servers**
  - Clients are individual players
  - Servers allow players to play together
- Required Hardware: Minecraft is available on both **PCs and Mac**. (*Not Chromebooks*)
  - Windows 7 or Above
  - *At least* 4 GB of RAM
  - (We tried running a Server on XP and Vista - nothing but problems)
  - You will basically want a machine that is less than 3 years old.

- **Minecraft: Education Edition**

  - Microsoft purchased MinecraftEDU in January of 2016 and is changing the entire EDU software line.

  - **Minecraft: Education Edition** is exclusively available to schools, museums, nonprofit organizations, and libraries.

- This Summer, Microsoft plans to release a new version of MinecraftEDU for schools, libraries and museums called **Minecraft: Education Edition**

- **Final Pricing information will be revealed this Summer**

- All existing MinecraftEDU customers will receive the *first year of Education Edition free of charge*. MinecraftEDU licenses and servers will not expire, but will likely *not be updated*.

- There are no plans to offer a cloud-hosted version of the Education Edition.

- **As of April, 2016:**

- There will be a free, early-access release of **Minecraft: Education Edition** in June.

- Cost will be **$5 per user per year** (our popular Minecraft server has 75 legit users).

- The software will likely *require Windows 10 or the latest OS X*

- **Users will need an Office 365 Education account to log in** (this worries us and we are brainstorming ways to streamline this). *Cost is potentially free.*

- Mods will not be allowed.

What will this all mean?

We aren't quite sure yet.

- Details have been scarce.

- It seems Microsoft is changing the entire pricing model. We expect costs to be slightly higher.

- Thankfully, software updates should be more frequent and there is a much bigger focus on the "learning" or "educational" aspects of Minecraft.

- While we wait and see, we recommend Console, Tablet & BYOD Minecraft Events. More adventurous libraries may want to try the **Minecraft: Education Edition** Free Trial when it is released in June.
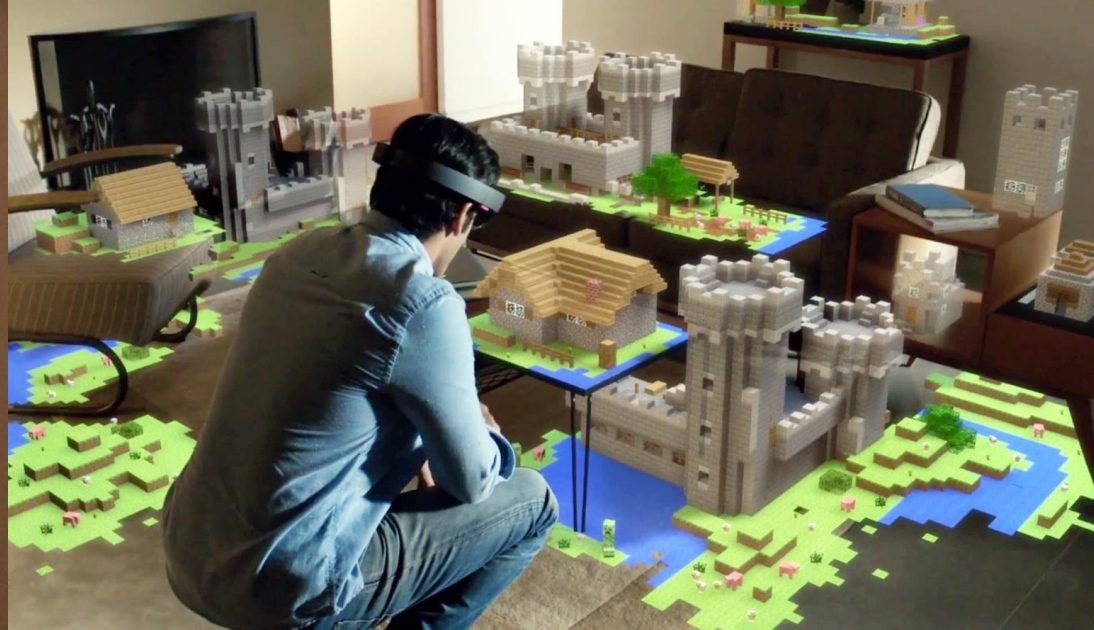
THE FUTURE...

- Microsoft purchased Mojang in September 2014 for **$2.5 Billion**

- Microsoft is hoping to release a **Windows 10** specific version of Minecraft to help attract new, younger customers to the Windows 10 platform.

THE FUTURE...

In addition to the Windows 10 version of Minecraft, Microsoft has used the Minecraft engine as a way of demonstrating their new VR Headset, Hololens.

MINECRAFT IN LIBRARIES

Advantages of incorporating Minecraft in your library

- It already has its own dedicated fan base

- A great incentive for kids who might not normally come into the library

- Programs can be wide-ranging: **kids, teens, and adults love Minecraft**

- Minecraft promotes STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math)
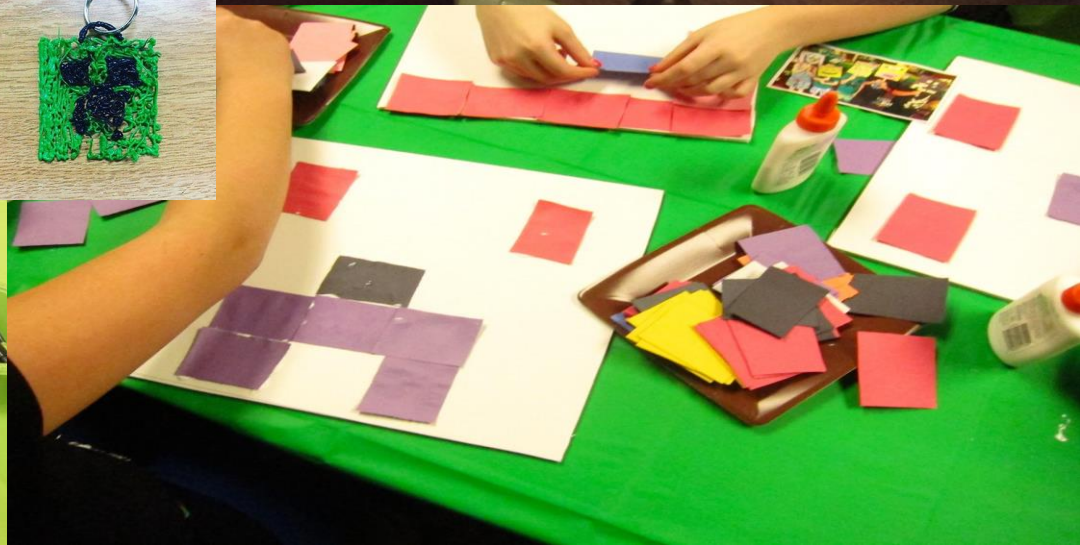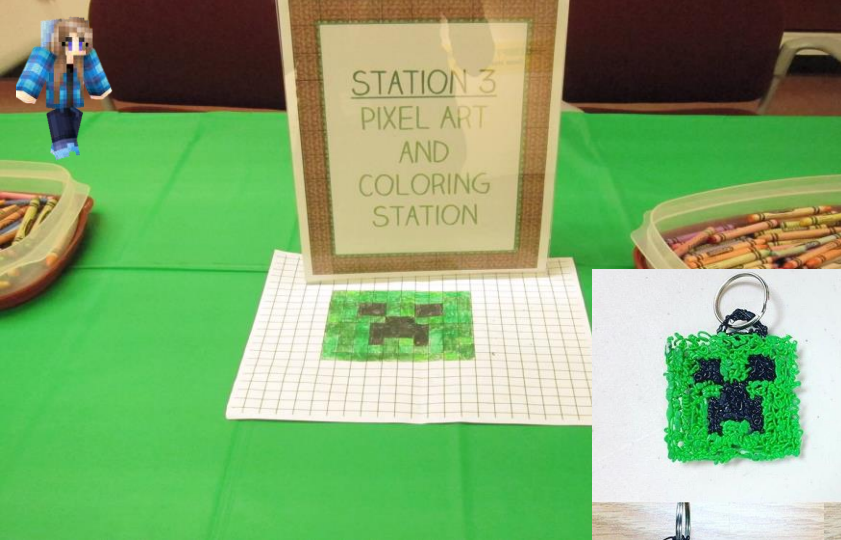
- Minecraft promotes *creativity and self expression...*

MINECRAFT PROGRAMMING

Basic, Low Tech & High Tech Events

MINECRAFT CRAFTS

- **Minecraft events don't have to be high-tech!**

- Host a Minecraft craft program and have your patrons create simple crafts

- **These events can be held to gauge "Minecraft Interest" in your community and you can decide how much to invest**

- *Keychains made out of Perler Beads*

- *Door Hangers*

- *Masks*

- *Papercrafts*

- *Pixel Art*

- *Printable Bookmarks*

STATION 3
PIXEL ART AND COLORING STATION

Diamond Pickaxe Key Chain

Guide
68 Beads Total
32 Brown Beads
37 Blue Beads

STATION 4
DOOR HANGERS

Creep Out!

AHH! Creepers!

A GREAT RESOURCE

Many Minecraft inspired crafts and activities
can be found on **Pinterest**
(Search "Minecraft Party" or "Minecraft Crafts")

2014 Diy minecraft torch ideas for Halloween decor - crafts #Halloween #minecraft

937 146

Level b-create a robot with 1/2 green 1/4 blue 2/8 red.... Level c-create a robot with1/2 green 25% blue 0.12 red...
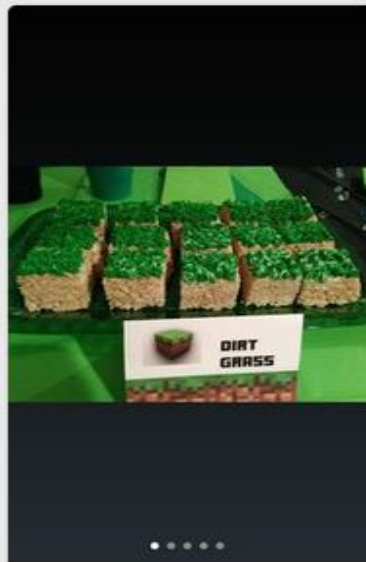
13342 1479 10

JEnnifer dAY
Birthday

Venessa Tufts
Creative ideas

FREE Printables

MINECRAFT GIFT TAGS

FREE Minecraft Lunchbox Notes

from WhatRoseKnows

Minecraft Perler Beads Patterns & Ideas!

Possible party favors! Best part is the boys can help! Make them into pins, necklaces or even key chains.

3111 289 2

Phyllis Chasteen
Crafts

from Happy-Go-Lucky

Portable Minecraft Gameband

Free Minecraft Printables - #GameOnTheGo #Ad #cbias @MyGameband

1779 188 3

MINECRAFT NOTEBOOKS

Kanyon

Keeping it simple

MINECRAFT BINGO GAME

MINECRAFT BINGO GAME

Mine craft quilt. Now to create a pattern for it. QitW: I think my son would love this as he is all about...

TNT

Search for 'minecraft party cake'

All Pins   Your Pins   Pinners   Boards

9 AWESOME MINECRAFT PARTY ACTIVITIES

BREWING STATION

Minecraft Party Supplies, Mining Fun Dessert Plates, Mining Tableware

163   22

Promoted by
Discount Party Supplies

MINECRAFT Party Ideas & Printables

DIRT GRASS

***The Best Minecraft Party Ideas For The Ultimate Minecraft Party - food, decorations, activities, great pictures, printables....

8374   658   4

Fany Sanchez
minecraft ideas for parties

from mindbodysoulessentials

Minecraft Birthday Party

Minecraft birthday party food/snack idea. "Dirt grass" rice krispy treats. ---edited so it goes to correct link with TONS of Minecraft party stuff---

13930   860   4

MINECRAFT PROGRAMMING

Minecraft programs can range in cost and skill:

- Create programs using Minecraft's PC/console/tablet versions
  - Have "*Bring Your Own Device*" events
  - Have Minecraft already setup on workstations, consoles, etc.

MINECRAFT PROGRAMMING

Minecraft programs can range in cost and skill:

- ○ Host Minecraft gaming events
  - ■ *Free Play Nights*
  - ■ *Challenge Nights* - Create challenges within the game, such as scavenger hunts
- ○ Demo worlds built or host a building competition with prizes

MINECRAFT PROGRAMMING

Don't worry too much…

Kids and teens bring their own knowledge *(and they love to talk about Minecraft!)…*

Any questions? Ask the kids!

MINECRAFT PROGRAMMING

Gold Ingots

POTION OF HEALING

Potions

MINECRAFT PROGRAMMING
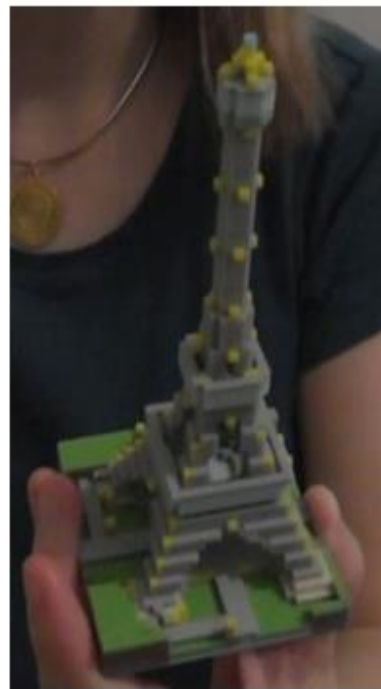Minecraft + Mineways + 3D Printer

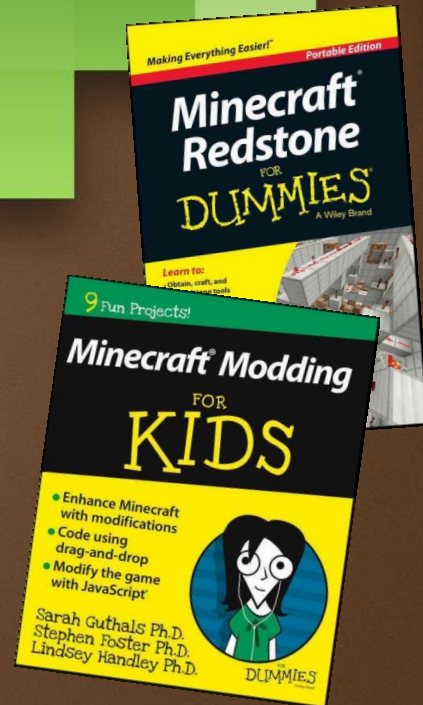IN MINECRAFT SELECTED IN MINEWAYS PREVIEWED DELIVERED FROM SHAPEWAYS UNDER GLASS
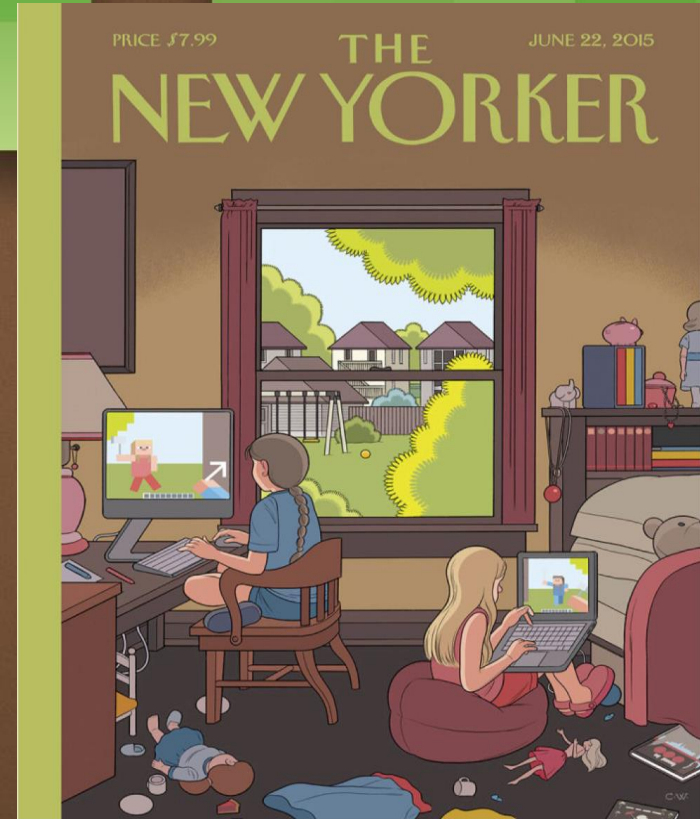
BUILDING A MINECRAFT COLLECTION

- Mojang has published several books, such as *Minecraft: The Complete Handbook Collection*

- Fantastic to have your in your library's collection **(and these books will circulate like crazy!**)
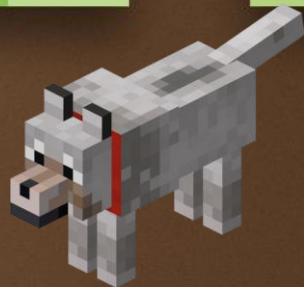
RESPONDING TO CRITICS

- Some parents object to their children playing Minecraft, because they fear that the game is too addictive.

- As with any activity, parents may want to limit time spent.

- Focus on positive aspects - *creativity, design, engineering, socialization*.

PRICE $7.99   THE NEW YORKER   JUNE 22, 2015

Q&A

THANK YOU!

JESSICA BREITMAN - *BELLMORE MEMORIAL LIBRARY*
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