Opportunities for Game Culture and Technology in Public Libraries

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Computer Games in Libraries

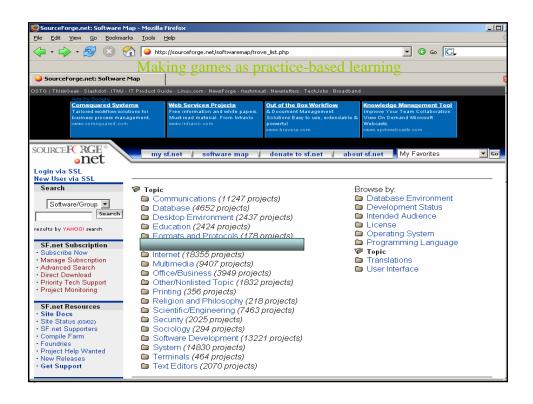
- A little background on game culture and technology
- New game opportunities for public libraries
- Libraries as community centers for games culture and technology

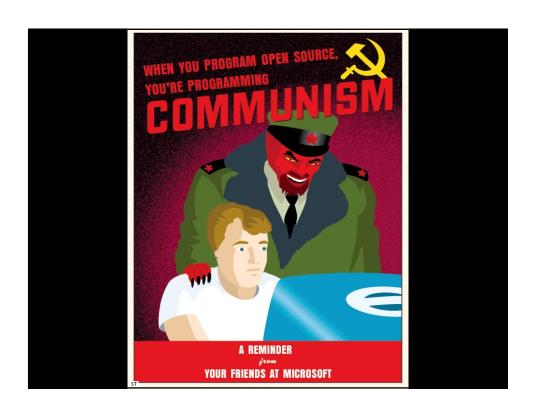
Game Culture and Technology

- Games as immersive, experiential literary form -- game play as emergent narrative
- Gaming as rapidly growing global industry
- "Modding" and making games as practicebased *learning* and *career development*
- Games as *new media* and cultural form
- Game culture as social movement

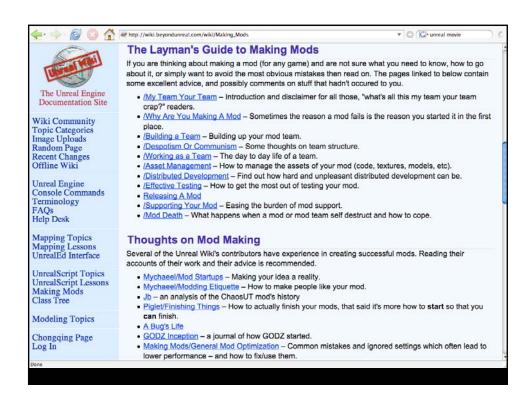












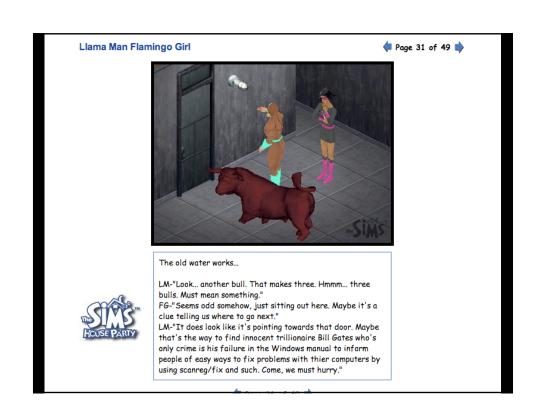




New Game related R&D efforts

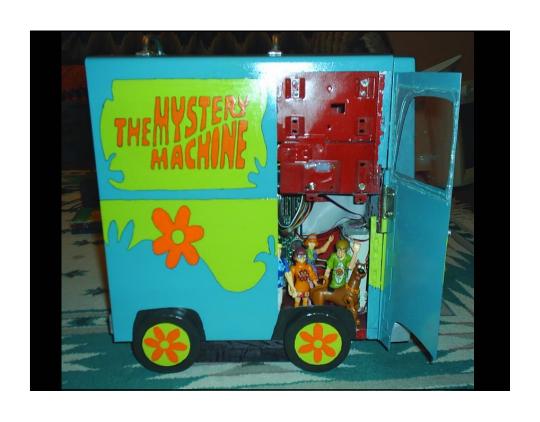
- visual and performing arts
 - Games as cultural media (www.selectparks.net)
- humanities and social sciences
 - Games as graphic narratives for storytelling;
 machinima game-based cinema
- alternative game cultures and venues
 - "hot rod" game machines, LAN parties, and GameCon's
- science learning and technology education
 - Games for informal education in science
 - Learning STEM domains and practices through immersive (role-playing) games



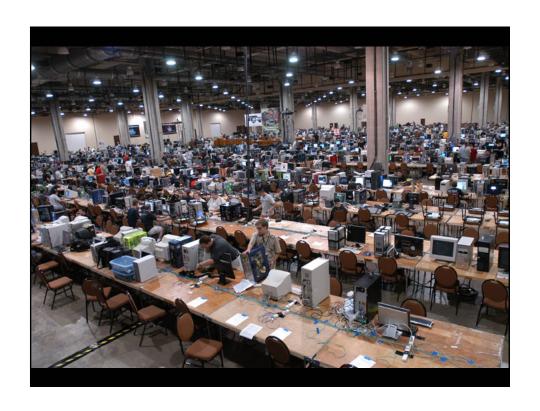




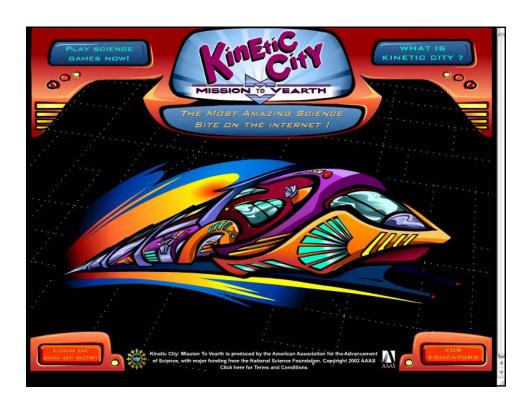


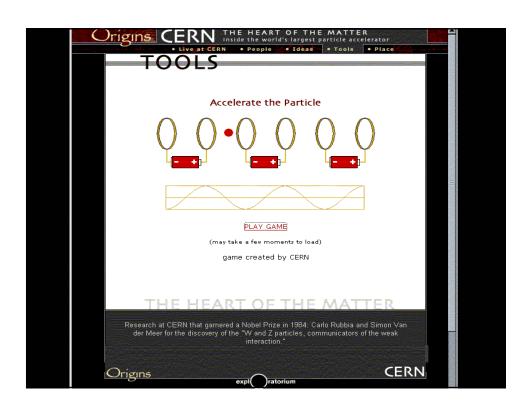




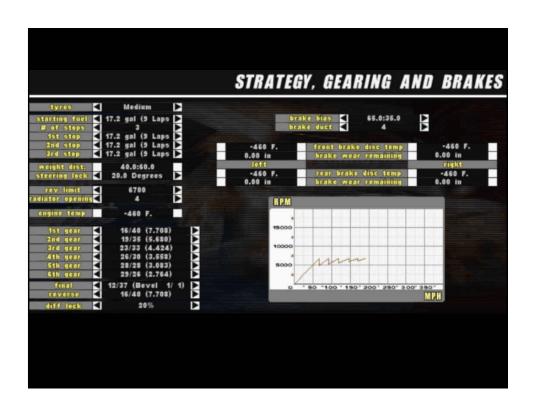


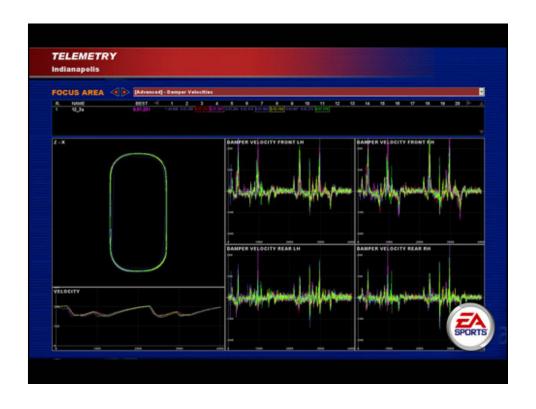










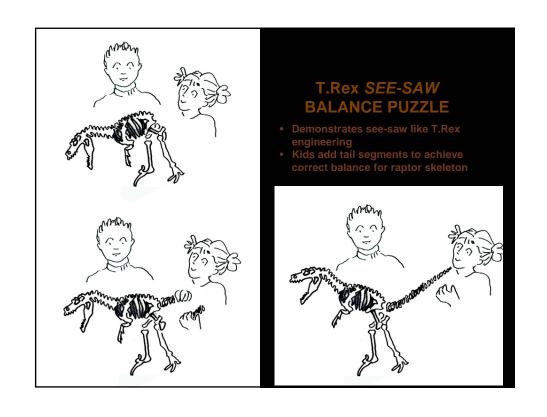




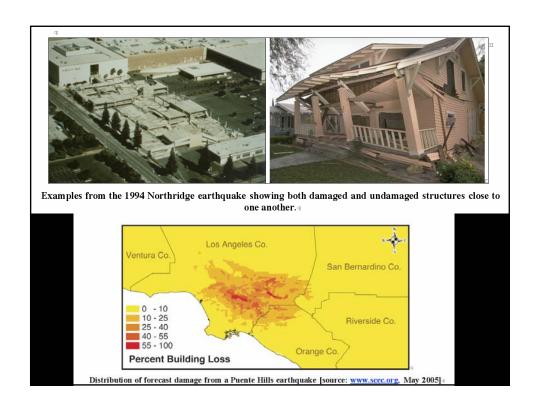


T.Rex

- Game story task 1 (grades 1-2)
 - How does a T.Rex stand and run with short arms (front legs) and a long tail?
 - Build/place tail and neck vertebra into "see-saw" balance system
 - How might the tail help the dinosaur when eating?
 - Addresses national science education standards







New Games for Libraries

- Commercial (PC)
 - Civilization 4
 - The Movies
- Informal science education games (Web)
 - KineticCity.com, Whyville.org, Exploratorium.org, etc.
- (Future) Library-specific games!

Library-Specific Games

- Knowledge Quest
 - navigational, adventure/discovery game
 - find and assemble knowledge from library resources
 - acquire practice and skill of *library researcher*
 - resident librarians as game masters/mentors
 - "open source" game engine, content development, and community participation

Library-specific games

- Inter-library game grid
 - MLS as virtual <u>public</u> network of online information servers accessible through local library PCs
 - Create a virtual <u>private</u> network for inter-library multiplayer games and tournaments
 - Facilitate inter-library game play and game culture
 - Deploy *online community information-sharing system*
 - "MyGameSpace" Web portal, blog, wiki, RSS, forum, etc.
 - library-specific, community oriented, ethnically diverse
 - Built from open source software components
 - Decentralized development cost, participation, and quality assurance

Making Library-Specific Games

- Partner with game research laboratories
 - UIUC, UCI, UW-M, or others
- *Propose* to external funding sources
 - Government agencies
 - Philanthropic foundations
 - International partners (multi-lingual culture)
- *Empower* open source game culture and technology for public libraries

Further information

- UCI Game Lab: www.ucgamelab.net
- W. Scacchi, <u>Free/Open Source Software Development Practices in the Computer Game Community</u>, *IEEE Software*, 21(1), 59-67, January/February 2004.
- W. Scacchi, <u>When Worlds Collide: Emerging Patterns of Intersection and Segmentation when Computerization Movements Interact</u>, working paper, presented at the <u>Social Informatics Workshop</u>, March 2005.

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