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Shortcuts[®]

by jeff harris

Catching Up With

POKÉMON

Pokémon Go, released in 2016, is an augmented-reality video game that allowed hundreds of millions of players worldwide to find and capture Pokémon in real-world locations using the GPS capability of their mobile phones.

This cartoon has created a monster.

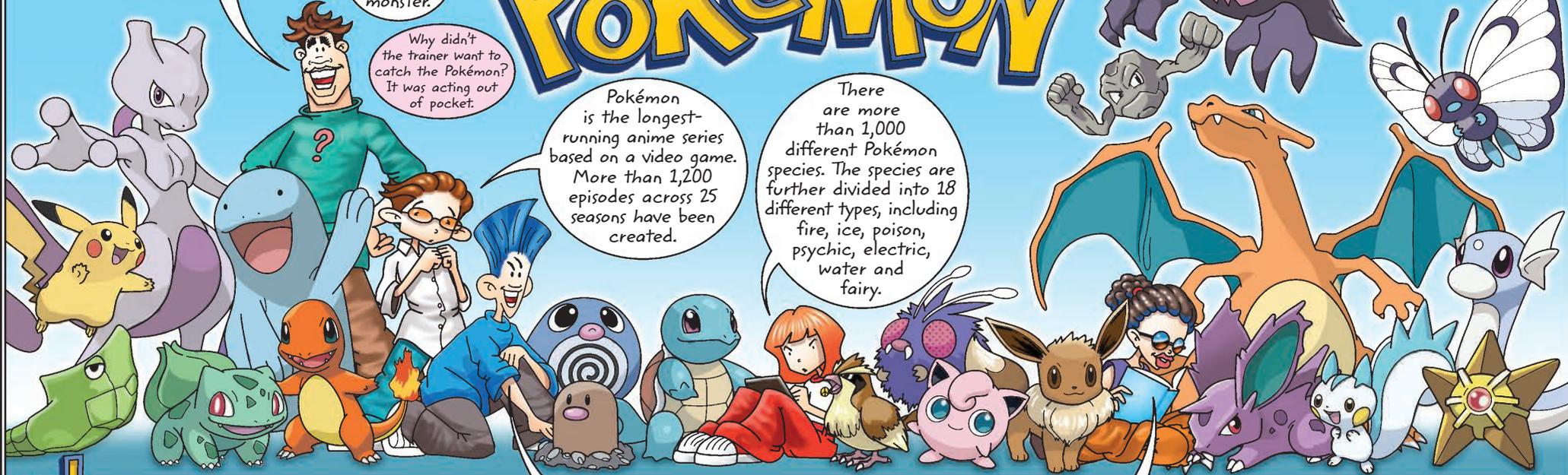
Why didn't the trainer want to catch the Pokémon? It was acting out of pocket.

Pokémon is the longest-running anime series based on a video game. More than 1,200 episodes across 25 seasons have been created.

There are more than 1,000 different Pokémon species. The species are further divided into 18 different types, including fire, ice, poison, psychic, electric, water and fairy.

What comes after Mewtwo? Mewthree.

(speaks Pokémon through guitar)



In 1995, Satoshi Tajiri created a video game set in a world where humans coexist with creatures known as Pokémon. Within a few years, the game became popular worldwide. With the addition of trading card games, animated features, comics, toys and movies, Pokémon eventually grew to be one of today's most successful franchises based on a video game in the world.

"Pokémon The First Movie: Mewtwo Strikes Back" was released in 1998. Since then, 23 animated Pokémon films and one live-action movie have been released.

The name "Pokémon" is a combination of the Japanese words for "pocket" and "monster."



What do you hear when you cross Pikachu with a ghost? Pika-boo!

Word Search

Can you find the hidden words? Search carefully because some words are backward or diagonal.

- NINTENDO CARDS FIRE
- POKEMON ANIME BOB
- MONSTER VIDEO BOY
- SPECIES FAIRY PUN
- POISON GAME ICE
- WATER FILM
- SUGGESTATOPIC
- JEEPARTYDEOUR
- CFALLIMINADKON
- CALLMEEFPIEEO
- SIRAOTPABVMS
- FRADNETOTEEOI
- EYEISIBAKETCO
- DONETEMOREEFP
- ABLEETPERETAW
- STARRESPECIES

Gotta Catch 'Em All

Some rare Pokémon trading cards have sold for more than \$100,000.

Pokémon Go has been downloaded more than 1 billion times globally.

More than 75 billion Pokémon cards have been printed.

Many of the names for Pokémon characters are puns.

Many Pokémon characters are based on traditional Japanese mythology.

What do you get when you cross Bulbasaur with a quarter? Pocket change.

GAME ANSWERS: 1. Tail is shorter 2. Arm is moved 3. Note is missing 4. Note is moved 5. Ear is different 6. Tail is missing

The Monster Mash

Can you spot all six differences between these two scenes?



Poké Party

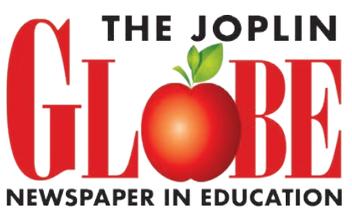
Pokémon first appeared in 1996 as a game for the Nintendo Game Boy.

February 27, 2026, will be celebrated worldwide as the 30th anniversary of the Japanese release of the first Pokémon video game.

For more information: "The Story of Pokémon" (Future Publishing Ltd) or <https://corporate.pokemon.co.jp/en/aboutus/history/>

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