World Building and Perspective in Video Game Development

Introduction

My fascination with video game mechanics took on a new dimension during my "Gaming as a Method" course. We delved into the explorative storytelling power of tabletop RPGs (TTRPGs), sparking a question that lingered: how do these translate to the world of video games? This question became the seed for my choose-your-own-adventure project, where I explored the blurry lines between video gaming and role playing. Ultimately, I suggested that all video games are role-playing games and TTRPG discussions can, to some extent, be extrapolated to video games.

When I embarked on the development of "Retro AstroSphere" as an interdisciplinary project, I began exploring. Bridging the gap between my "Video Game Development" and "Gaming as a Method" courses, this game served as a practical exploration of these ideas. By stripping away complexities with a minimalist design, "Retro AstroSphere" removes confounding variables, allowing for a generalizable analysis of the video game development cycle through the lens of TTRPG concepts.

This paper delves into the world-building and player perspective within "Retro

stroSphere." I'll explore how, despite its simple mechanics, the game fosters a role-playing xperience.
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