

It's Time! Get Creative with Microsoft Research's New Xbox LIVE Community Game "Kodu Game Lab"

Have you ever wanted to create your own video game? Now is the time to put your imagination to the test. Microsoft Research's new game lab "Kodu Game Lab" launches on Xbox LIVE Community Games today, giving aspiring game makers of all ages the chance to bring their own game creations to Xbox 360. For just 400 MS Points, or \$5, anyone with a passion for game creation can harness the magic of programming and game development at every level.

Built using Microsoft's XNA Games Studio, "Kodu Game Lab" is a pick-up-and-create toolset where any aspiring game creators can build their own unique world using a simple image-based creator menu that makes game-making easier than ever. With almost 200 different programming features to choose from, and the ability to share games with anyone on your Friends List, the opportunities are endless.

In addition to a simple image-based user menu, "Kodu Game Lab" enables game creation using only an Xbox 360 controller, right from the comfort of your couch. "Kodu Game Lab" comes equipped with a bridge and path builder, a terrain editor to build unique playgrounds, co-op gameplay for up to four players and 20 different characters with a range of abilities.

What's more, "Kodu Game Lab" keeps minds active by developing logic, problem-solving and creative thinking skills since it was originally designed as a learning tool for kids.

"As a programmer, I wanted to help create something that unlocked the magic of Xbox 360 in the same way that I was able to unlock my computer as a child and bring my imagination to life through games," Lead "Kodu Game Lab" Programmer Matthew MacLaurin said. "We had such success with bringing 'Kodu Game Lab' into classrooms and after-school programs that we wanted to offer it to any wannabe programmer or creator through the Xbox LIVE Community Games Channel."

Just in time for summer, "Kodu Game Lab" finds its home among some of the freshest, most diverse and creatively independent games showcased on Xbox LIVE. *Get ready to create!*

More detailed information about "Kodu Game Lab" and Community Games can be found by visiting: <http://creators.xna.com>.

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For screenshots, please visit:

<http://creators.xna.com/press>