



Pokémon was originally a videogame created in 1995 for the Game Boy and published by Nintendo. Now it includes a series of videogames, card games, animated tv shows and movies, comic books and toys.

### **The Name**

The name is the contraction of Pocket Monsters, and it refers to the 722 fictional species that appeared in the Pokémon's series.

### **What are Pokémon?**



Pokémon are creatures of all shapes and sizes who live in the wild or with humans. For the most part, Pokémon do not speak except to say their names. Pokémon are raised and commanded by their owners (called "Trainers"). During their adventures, Pokémon grow and become more experienced and sometimes evolve into stronger Pokémon. There are currently more than 700 creatures that inhabit the Pokémon universe.

## Pokémon Video Games



In most games, the player takes on the role of a young Trainer. His journey involves travelling from place to place, catching and training Pokémon, and battling against other Trainers' Pokémon on a quest to become the Pokémon League Champion. An additional goal is to catch and catalogue all of the many Pokémon in the game's world. Despite this battling aspect of the games, the Pokémon games avoid explicit violence; Pokémon never die during the course of the game. Trainers are invited to take part in many exciting activities when playing, including talent and beauty contests, tournaments, and fishing (for Pokémon, of course!). Players can battle and trade Pokémon with other players. With newer video game systems, players can even play and trade online with other Trainers around the world.

## Pokémon Characters

# Original 150 Pokémon\*

