

# The Year in Free-to-Play Games

Steve Meretzky (GSN Games)
Phil Larsen (Prettygreat)
Dave Rohrl (Mobile Game Doctor)

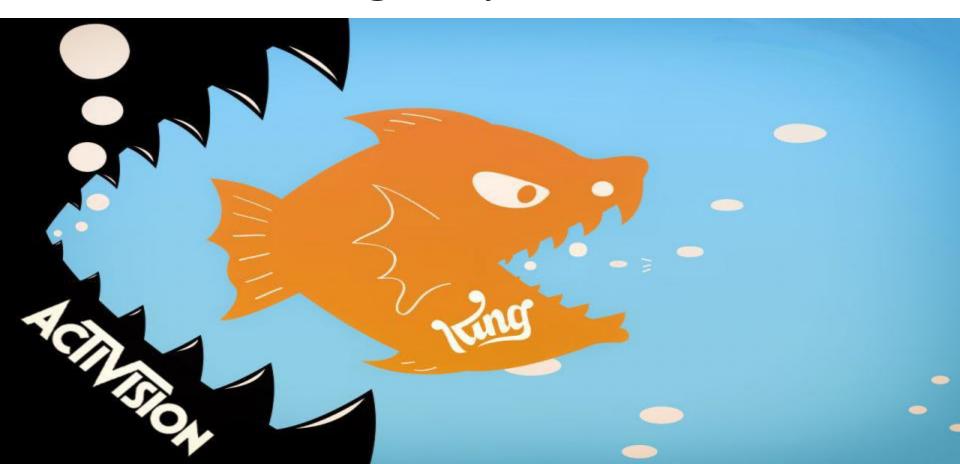


## Stuff

- Turn off your phones
- Fill out your evaluations
- Floss at least once per day



# King Acquisition

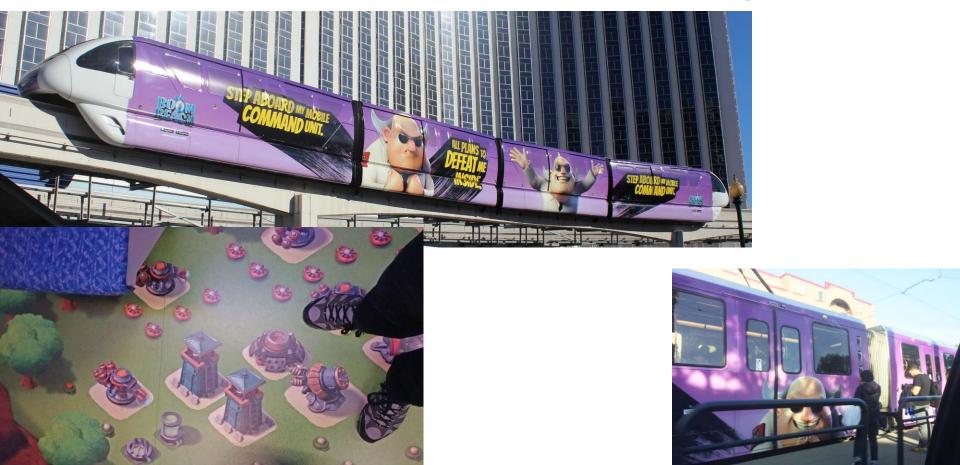












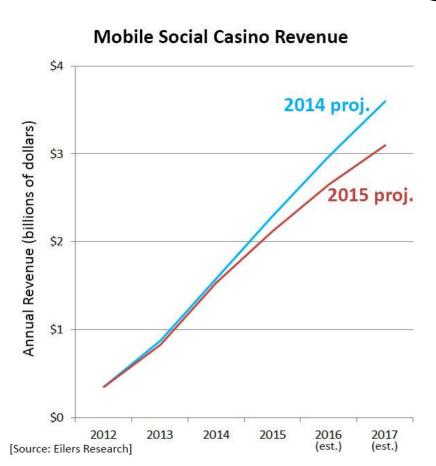


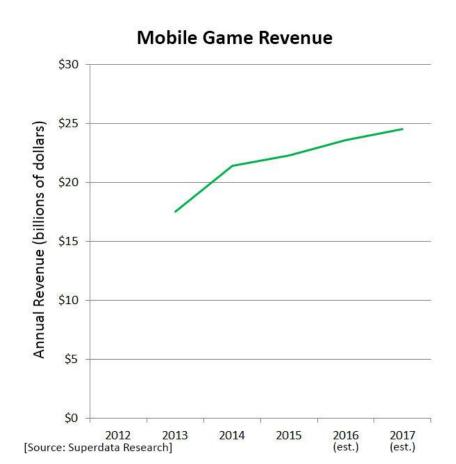


## Part 1

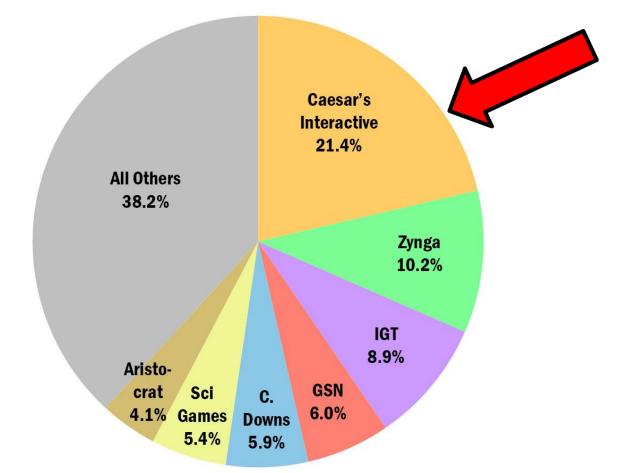
# Social Casino: Still a Good Bet?

## **Slowing Growth**

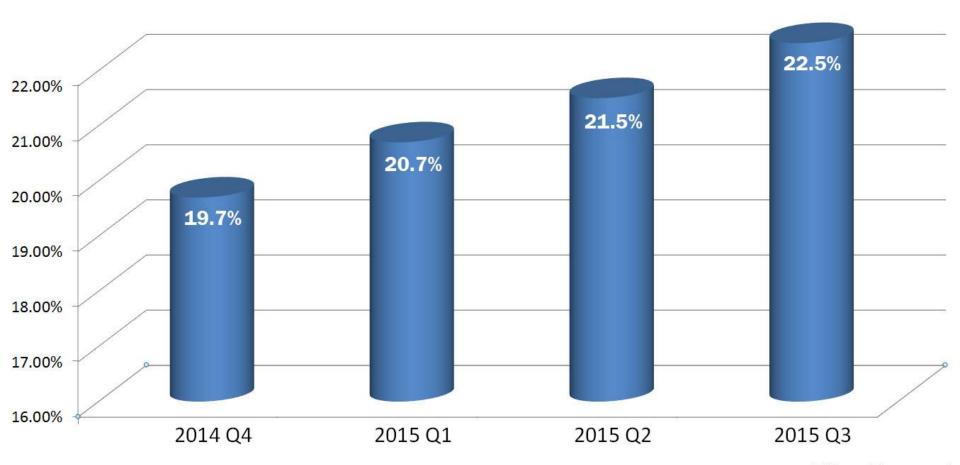




## Caesars: The Rich Get Richer



#### **Caesars Interactive - Share of Social Casino Market**



source: Eilers Research







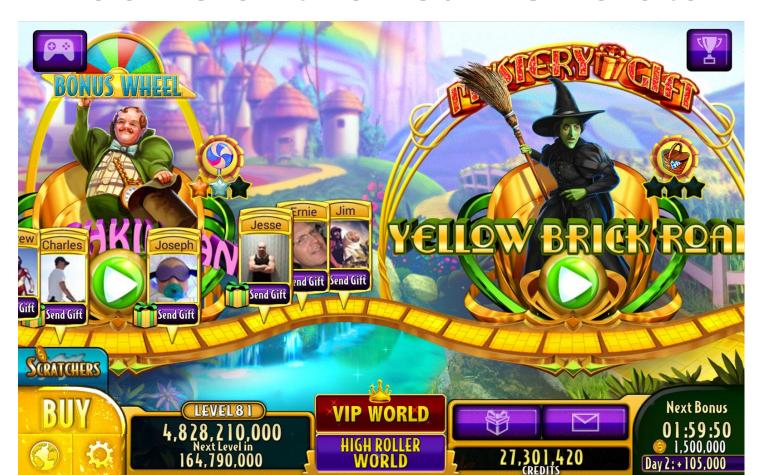


















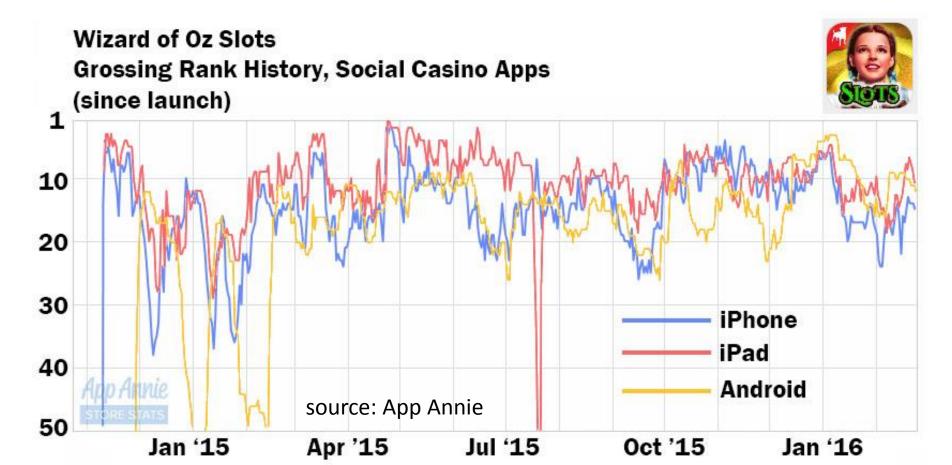












## A New Sub-Genre



#### A New Sub-Genre



Old Vegas Slots
DGN Games

**Viva Slots**Rocket Games





**Vegas Downtown Slots** 

Caesars Interactive

**Vegas Diamond Slots**Zynga

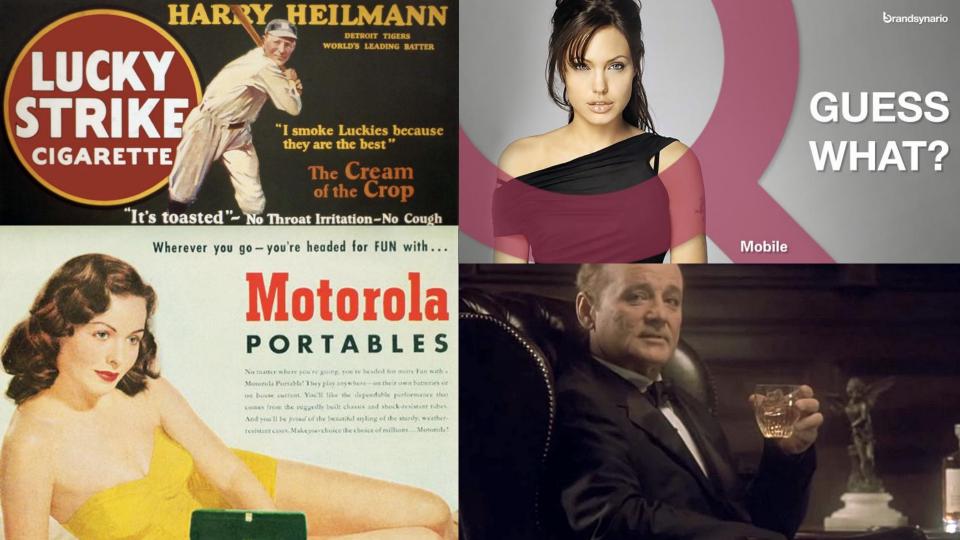


#### Lessons

- Slowing growth
- Caesars lead widens
- Proven social mechanics work
- 3RM shows the way for new entrants

## Part 2

# Celebrity Games: So Hot Right Now





# Kim Kardashian's app won't make near \$200 million as popularity fades







sorry I'm late to the party guys I was busy cashing my 80 million video game check & transferring 53 million into our joint account 🛟





LIKES

179,484

RETWEETS 122,240





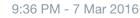












#### Version 4.4.0 Posted Dec 8, 2015

- · Balmain's creative director Olivier Rousteing joins the fun! (level 10+)
- · New Balmain fashions based on real-life styles available in the store! · Holiday events and surprises coming your way for the month of December!
- · Millions more fans added for A-Listers to earn!
- · Bug fixes and other improvements...

#### Version 4.3.0 Posted Nov 17, 2015

- · Watch out for Black Friday deals coming your way! · Customize your baby in new ways!
- · More clothes for guys & girls added to the store!
- · Millions more fans added for A-Listers to earn! · Bug fixes and other improvements

#### Version 4.2.0 Posted Nov 3, 2015

- · Introducing fashion icon Karl Lagerfeld to the game! (level 11+) · New Karl Lagerfeld fashions based on real-life styles available in the store!
- · Millions more fans added for A-Listers to earn!
- · Bug fixes and other improvements

#### What's New in Version 4.7.0 Posted Feb 12, 2016

· Soak up the sun with the Kardashians and Jenners in St. Barts! (level 22+)

- · New clothing items for guys and gals in the store! · Millions more fans added for A-Listers to earn!
- Bug fixes and other improvements

Thanks for playing!

What's new in v4.7.0:

#### Version 4.6.0 Posted Jan 26, 2016

· Better dates! Your partner will now give gifts and can pay for dates!

- · Special Valentine's Day events including a special, limited time romantic getaway location · New clothing items for guys and gals in the store!

  - Millions more fans added for A-Listers to earn! · Bug fixes and other improvements

#### Version 4.5.0 Posted Jan 7, 2016

- · Get together with the Kardashians and Jenners in Big Sky, Montana! (level 21+)
- · New clothing items for guys and gals in the store!
- Millions more fans added for A-Listers to earn!
- · Bug fixes and other improvements





+ Get ~

Offers In-App Purchases

This app is designed for both iPhone and iPad

\*\*\*\* (20,023)

Rating: 12+

TOP IN-APP PURCHASES

10. Large Cash Stack

1.	Small K-Gems Pack	\$4.99
2.	Medium K-Gems Pack	\$9.99
3.	Large K-Gems Pack	\$19.99
4.	Get It Started 2	\$1.99
5.	Small Cash Stack	\$4.99
6.	Need This RN	\$9.99
7.	Medium Cash Stack	\$9.99
8.	XL K-Gems Pack	\$49.99
9.	Get It Started	\$4.99

\$19.99

#### Kendall and Kylie 12+

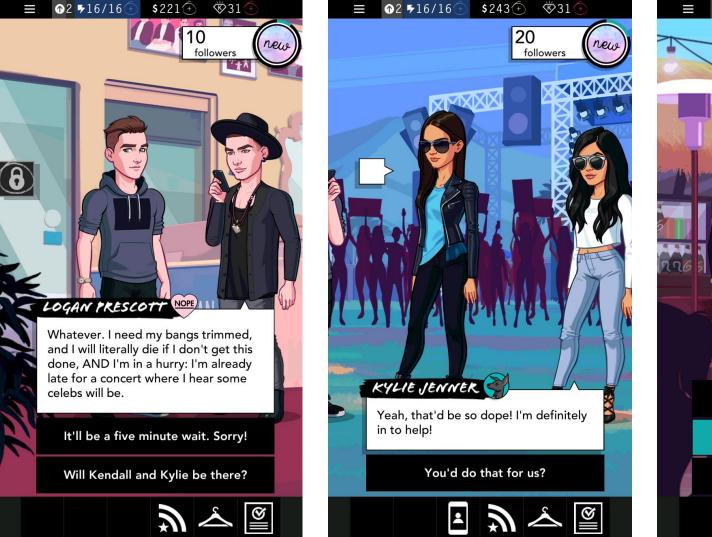
Glu Games Inc >

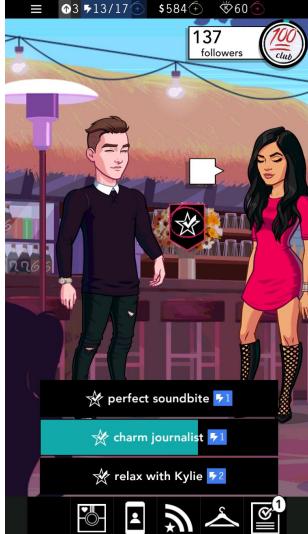
Details Ratings and Reviews Related

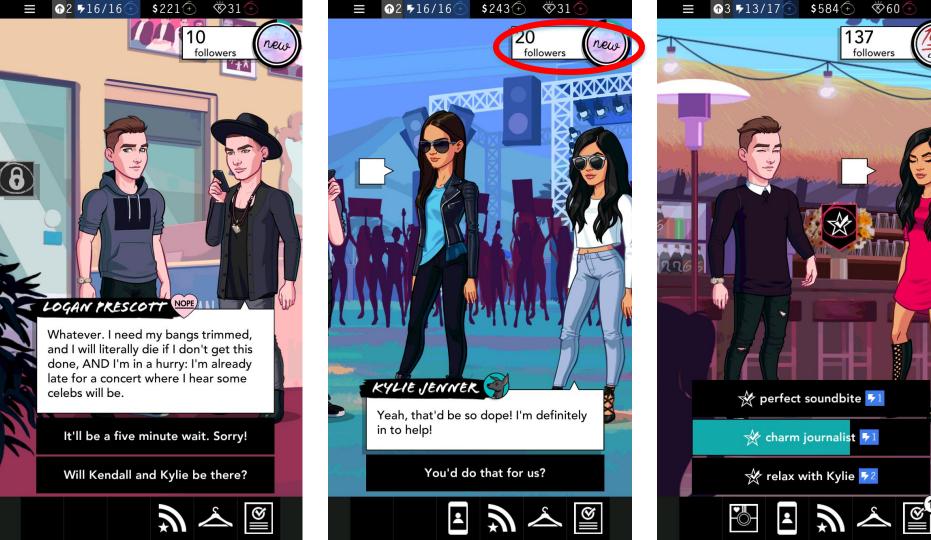
Screenshots

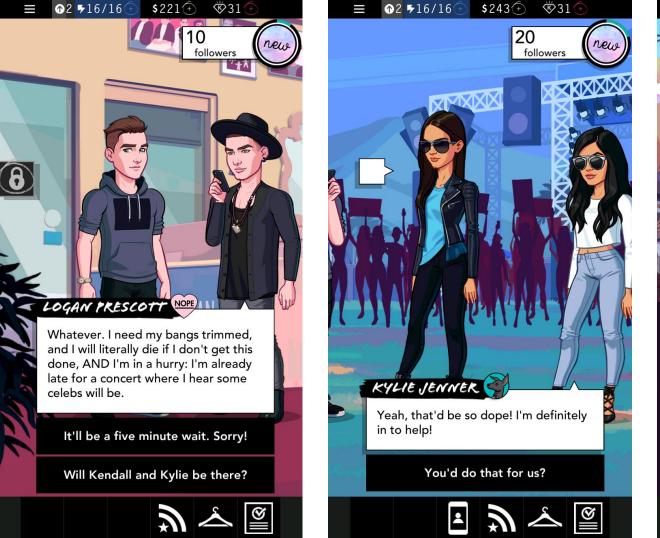


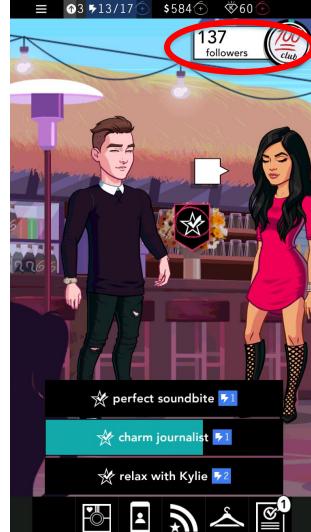


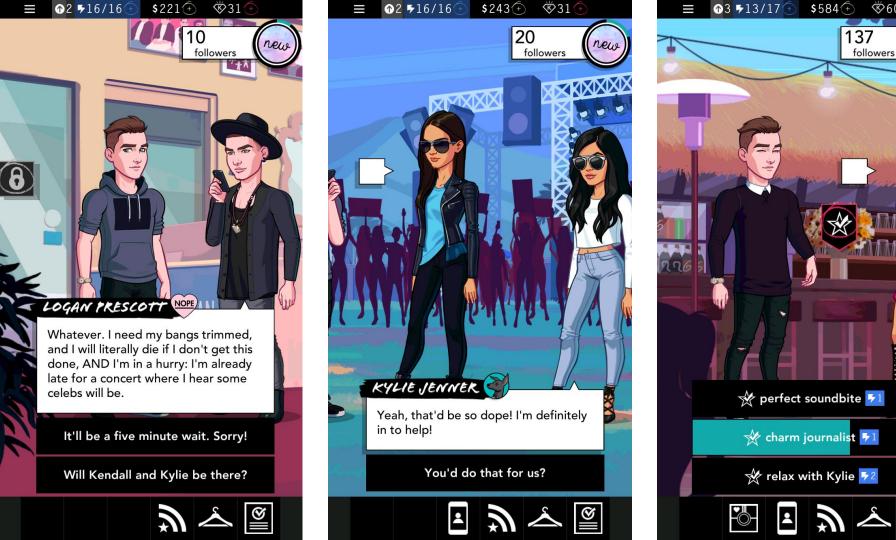




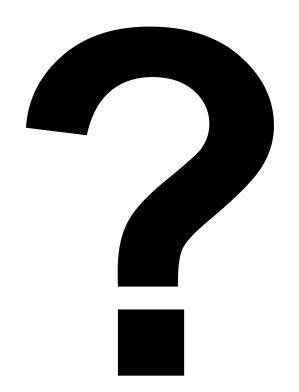








₩60 (





#### Celeb-O-Watch

- 1. Katy Perry 84,000,000
- 2. Justin Bieber 76,700,000
- 3. Taylor Swift 72,400,000
- 4. Rihanna 56,900,000
- 5. Lady Gaga 56,700,000
- 6. Justin Timberlake 52,240,000
- 7. Kim Kardashian 41,200,000
- 8. Cristiano Ronaldo 40,923,413
- 9. Shakira 37,200,000
- 10. Gordon Ramsay 3,020,000
- 11. Me 3,346

#### Glu's celebrity strategy faltered on Katy **Perry, James Bond games**

By Matthew Handrahan

f Recommend < 54



in Share < 31

THU 04 FEB 2016 2:47PM GMT / 9:47AM EST / 6:47AM PST 

#### 50 jobs were cut during restructuring after "extremely humbling" H2 2015

Glu Mobile cut 50 jobs across three different studios in December 2015, the result of difficulties in the secondhalf of the year that CEO Niccolo de Masi described as, "extremely humbling."

That comment was made in a call with investors, which followed the publication of full-year financial results that

showed pervasive revenue and profit decline. A key contributor to that decline was the fallibility of its product strategy, which relies on licenses and celebrity partnerships to bring in users.

While that strategy was built on the remarkable success of Kim Kardashian: Hollywood, it faltered in the second half of 2015. De Masi pointed to Katy Perry: Pop as a prime example. "Poor technical decisions coupled with the newly hired team led to all key metrics being below thresholds required for an ROI positive title," he said. "Additional development time was not provided due to contractual restrictions as well as the team's mediocre trajectory."





#### Glu Mobile

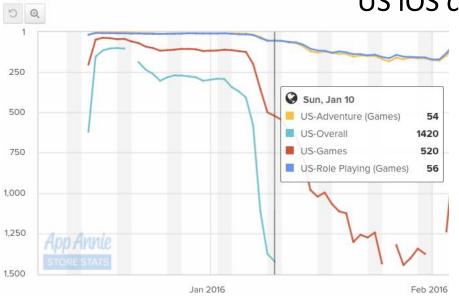
Glu Mobile (formerly Sorrent, Inc. and Macrospace Ltd.) is a leading developer and global publisher...

alumobile.com

"Poor technical decisions coupled with the newly hired team led to all key metrics being below thresholds required for an ROI positive title," he said. "Additional development time was not provided due to contractual restrictions as well as the team's mediocre trajectory."

### Niccolo de Masi, Glu CEO

#### Katy Perry Pop US iOS charts



What's New in Version 1.1.0 Posted Mar 1, 2016 Katy Perry Pop Fans,

The update you've been waiting for is here! Download the update to discover a brand new location,

- · New Location London is here!
- o Experience brand new quests!
- o Collect new clothing inspired by British fashion!
- o Sign with a new Record Label!
- o Get a publicist!
- o Join Katy on a European tour!
- · All projects are now worth 5 Notes!
- · Updated visuals locations are looking pretty snazzy!
- · Your phone got smarter with notifications of what's new!

Enjoy the magical world of Katy Perry and download the latest version of Katy Perry Pop today!

Version 1.0.5 Posted Dec 5, 2015

Bug fixes and other improvements to game performance







#### Celeb-O-Watch

- 1. Katy Perry 84,000,000
- 2. Justin Bieber 76,700,000
- 3. Taylor Swift 72,400,000
  - 4. Rihanna 56,900,000
- 5. Lady Gaga 56,700,000
- 6. Justin Timberlake 52,240,000
  - 7. Kim Kardashian 41,200,000
- 8. Cristiano Ronaldo 40,923,413
  - 9. Shakira 37,200,000
  - 10.Gordon Ramsay 3,020,000
    - 11.Me 3,346



+ Get ~

Offers In-App Purchases

This app is designed for both iPhone and iPad

\*\*\*\* (250)

Rating: 4+

#### TOP IN-APP PURCHASES

1.	Handful of Gold Coins	\$1.99
2.	Bunch of Gold Coins	\$4.99
3.	Pile of Gold Coins	\$8.99
4.	Starter Pack	\$4.99
5.	Sack of Gold Coins	\$19.99
6.	Chest of Gold Coins	\$39.99

#### LINKS

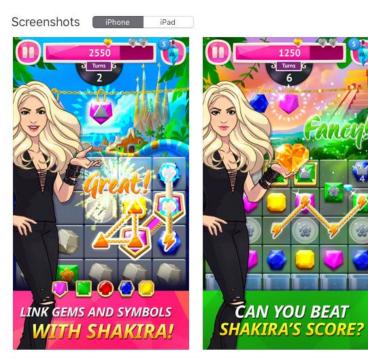
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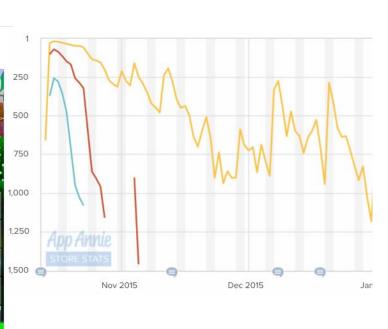
© Rovio Entertainment Ltd.

#### Love Rocks Shakira 44

Rovio Entertainment Ltd >

Details Ratings and Reviews Related









Offers In-App Purchases

This app is designed for both iPhone and iPad



Rating: 4+

TO	P IN-APP PURCHASES			
1.	Small Gold Coin Bundle	\$4.99		
2.	Teeny Gold Coin Bundle	\$2.9		
3.	Medium Gold Coin Bundle	\$9.9		
4.	Tiny Gold Coin Bundle	\$0.99		
5.	Large Gold Coin Bundle	\$20.99		
6.	Huge Gold Coin Bundle	\$39.9		
7.	Super Starter Pack!	\$2.99		
8.	Super Starter Pack	\$0.99		
9.	Black Friday A	\$4.99		
10.	Black Friday B	\$9.9		

#### Nibblers - Fruit Match Puzzle 49

Rovio Entertainment Ltd >

Ratings and Reviews Related

#### **Customer Ratings**

Current Version	All Versions
Average Rating:	★★★★ 5,216 Ratings
Click to rate:	****

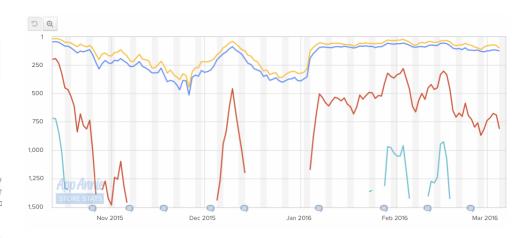
#### **Customer Reviews**

Write a Review	App Support
Entertaining For	Sure ***
	- Jan 22, 2016

I was afraid this was just another mindless game where y descent graphics and it's easy to learn how to play. The r you to the developer for making it so people can shut tho

#### A fun and very addictive game \*\*\* by blueston chris - Nov 2, 2015

I still put a Pontus game by accident. And I fell in love wit level 150 without spending any more money. The game c balanced; unlike the candy crush series which I found it t





45. Rope Racers + Get ~ In-App Purchases



46. Boomerang from Instagram Photo & Video + Get ~



In-App Purchases

58. Fitbit

Get ~

47. Plastic 48. letgo: Buy & Sell Second... Surgery... Games Shopping + Get ~ Get v



Choose Your... Games + Get ~ In-App Purchases



Buy. Sell ....

Shopping

Get v

51. Racing in Car Games + Get ~



52. Lyft - Taxi & Bus App... Travel

Get v



53. Wish -Shopping Mad... + Get ~



54. Bitmoji Keyboard - Yo ... Get v

In-App Purchases



55. oneSafe -Premium... Productivity + Get ~



56. Castle Clash: Age of... Games + Get ~ In-App Purchases



57. Periscope Social Networking Get ~



59. Mobile Strike Health & Fitness Games + Get ~



60. Injustice: Gods Among Us Games + Get ~ In-App Purchases In-App Purchases



61. Yelp Travel + Get ~



62. Shazam -Discover music... Music + Get v In-App Purchases





64. Thumb Drift - Furious One... Games + Get ~ In-App Purchases



by Smule Music \* Get ~ In-App Purchases



66. 100 Balls Games + Get ~ In-App Purchases



67. Chrome web browser b... **Utilities** + Get ~



68. Tinder Lifestyle Get v In-App Purchases



69. PINK Nation Lifestyle Get ~



70. Damn Daniel Soundboard Entertainment Get ~



71. Groupon -Deals, Coupon... Shopping + Get ~



Music Music Get v In-App Purchases



73. Jet - The Smartest Way t... Shopping + Get ~



74. YouCam Makeup Photo & Video + Get v



75. Clash of 76. 8 Ball Pool™ Clans Games Games + Get V + Get v In-App Purchases



77. Solitaire-Games + Get ~



78. BARRIER X



80. Colorfy:





83. Temple Run



84. Sing!



85. Emoji Blitz



In-App Purchases

86. Agar.io



87. Basketball



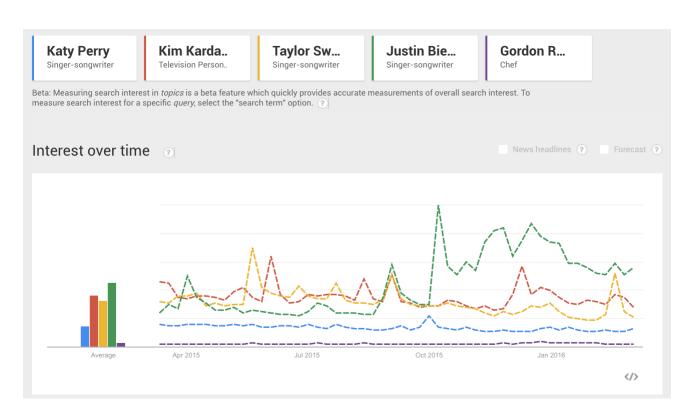
88. Dropbox



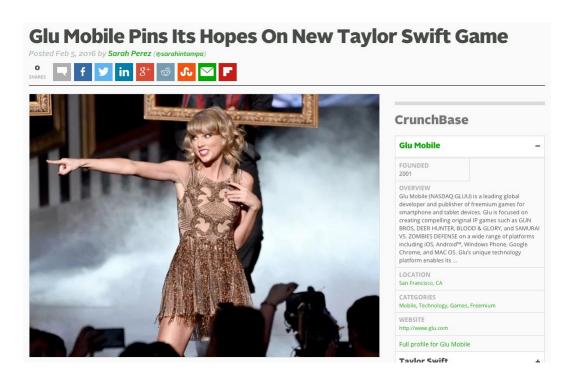








Google Trends, 2015 searches



Source: TechCrunch - http://techcrunch.com/2016/02/05/glu-mobile-pins-its-hopes-on-new-taylor-swift-game/



### Lessons

Going bigger isn't always better

Quality is still king

Smaller integrations smart approach

## Part 3

# Recipe for an RPG

25 To	op-Grossing Games (as	of 3/8/2016)	
			* dodd
	iPhone	iPad	Android
1	Clash Royale	DoubleDown Casino	Clash of Clans
2	Clash of Clans	Clash Royale	Game of War
3	Game of War	Clash of Clans	Clash Royale
4	Mobile Strike	Game of War	Candy Crush Saga
5	Candy Crush Saga	Candy Crush Saga	Mobile Strike
6	DoubleDown Casino	Candy Crush Soda Saga	Clash of Kings
7	Candy Crush Soda Saga	Big Fish Casino	Candy Crush Soda Saga
8	Marvel Contest of Champions	Mobile Strike	Marvel Contest of Champions
9	Madden NFL Mobile	Hay Day	Slotomania
10	Big Fish Casino	Slots Free Casino House of Fun	Summoners War
11	Candy Crush Jelly Saga	Heart of Vegas	Candy Crush Jelly Saga
12	Slotomania	Slotomania HD	Boom Beach
13	Clash of Kings	Boom Beach	Free Slots Casino House of Fun
14	Boom Beach	Cookie Jam	Star Wars: Galaxy of Heroes
15	少平三国定(7天送赵云, 两用	Candy Crush Jelly Saga	Walking Dead: Road to Survival
16	Star Wars: Galaxy of Heroes	Gummy Drop!	Wizard of Oz Free Slots
17	Summoners War	Slotomania Casino	DoubleDown Casino
18	myVegas Slots	Jackpot Party Casino Slots	Cookie Jam
19	8 Ball Pool	Hit it Rich! Free Casino Slots	Big Fish Casino
20	Hay Day	Bingo Blitz	Heart of Vegas
21	Slots Free Casino - House of Fun	Bingo Bash	Hay Day
22	ن شقام السلاطين	GSN Casino	Madden NFL Mobile
23	Kendall and Kylie	Madden NFL Mobile	Farm Heroes Saga
24	World Series of Poker	Marvel Contest of Champions	DoubleU Casino
25	Yahtzee With Buddies	Farm Heroes Saga	Gummy Drop

23 1	op-drossing dames (as	01 3/0/2010/	
	iPhone	iPad	Android
1	Clash Royale	DoubleDown Casino	Clash of Clans
2	Clash of Clans	Clash Royale	Game of War
3	Game of War	Clash of Clans	Clash Royale
4	Mobile Strike	Game of War	Candy Crush Saga
5	Candy Crush Saga	Candy Crush Saga	Mobile Strike
6	DoubleDown Casino	Candy Crush Soda Saga	Clash of Kings
7	Candy Crush Soda Saga	Big Fish Casino	Candy Crush Soda Saga
8	Marvel Contest of Champions	Mobile Strike	Marvel Contest of Champions
9	Madden NFL Mobile	Hay Day	Slotomania
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11	Candy Crush Jelly Saga	Heart of Vegas	Candy Crush Jelly Saga
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13	Clash of Kings	Boom Beach	Free Slots Casino House of Fun
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15	少年三国近(7天送赵云,面原	Candy Crush Jelly Saga	Walking Dead: Road to Survival
16	Star Wars: Galaxy of Heroes	Gummy Drop!	Wizard of Oz Free Slots
17	Summoners War	Slotomania Casino	DoubleDown Casino
18	myVegas Slots	Jackpot Party Casino Slots	Cookie Jam
19	8 Ball Pool	Hit it Rich! Free Casino Slots	Big Fish Casino
20	Hay Day	Bingo Blitz	Heart of Vegas
21	Slots Free Casino - House of Fun	Bingo Bash	Hay Day
22	<u>ن شقام السل الموين</u>	GSN Casino	Madden NFL Mobile
23	Kendall and Kylie	Madden NFL Mobile	Farm Heroes Saga
24	World Series of Poker	Marvel Contest of Champions	DoubleU Casino
25	Yahtzee With Buddies	Farm Heroes Saga	Gummy Drop

	<u>Android</u>	<u>iPhone</u>	<u>iPad</u>	<u>Total</u>
RPG	9	8	4	21
<b>Map Strat</b>	9	6	5	20
RTS	7	7	5	19
Fighting	5	5	2	12
Shooting	1	2	2	5
Sports	1	2	1	4
Racing	1	2	1	4
Other	7	5		12

	<u>Android</u>	<u>iPhone</u>	<u>iPad</u>	<u>Total</u>
RPG	9	8	4	21
Map Strat	9	6	5	20
RTS	7	7	5	19
Fighting	5	5	2	12
Shooting	1	2	2	5
Sports	1	2	1	4
Racing	1	2	1	4
Other	7	5		12

### What is An RPG?





### Blast From the Past





## **Bite Size Strategy**





**Dungeon Boss** 

**Summoners War** 

## **Bite Size Strategy**





**Dungeon Boss** 

**Summoners War** 

## **Bite Size Strategy**



Star Wars: Galaxy of Heroes

### Bite Size Action



Magic Rush

**Knights & Dragons** 

### Bite Size Action



Magic Rush

**Knights & Dragons** 

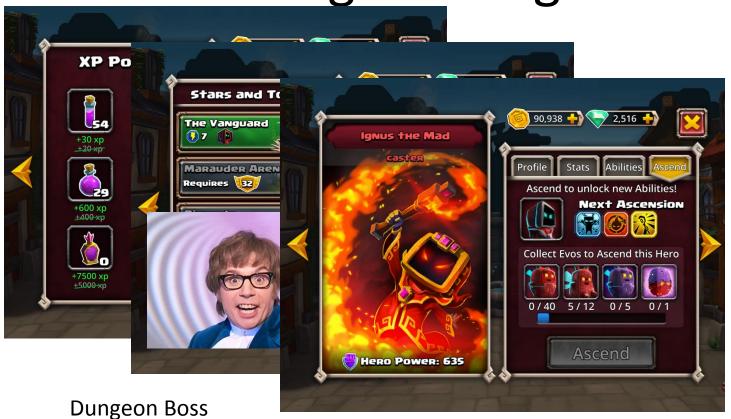


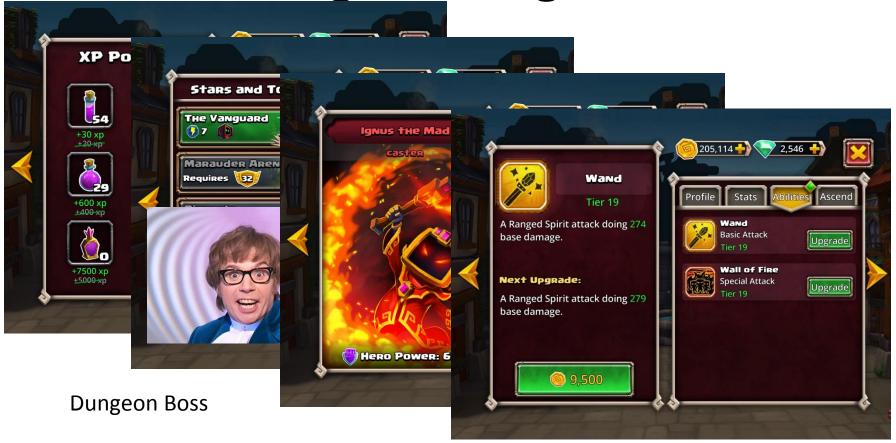


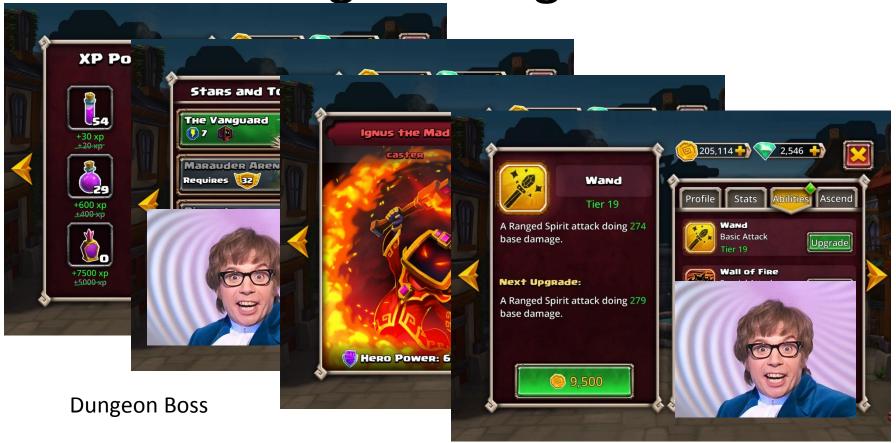
**Dungeon Boss** 



**Dungeon Boss** 







### A Dash of Hate





**Summoners War** 

Star Wars: Galaxy of Heroes

### A Dash of Hate





**Summoners War** 

Star Wars: Galaxy of Heroes

### And A Whole Lot Of Love





### And A Whole Lot Of Love



## And Very Eventful



**Summoners War** 

## And Very Eventful



**Summoners War** 

# Two Acceptable Flavors







Magic Rush

Star Wars: Galaxy of Heroes

#### Lessons

- RPGs matter
- Provide great strategy in battle
- Build a long ladder
- Support social both pro and anti
- Events are key
- Mind your theme



### Part 4

# Fallout Shelter: Not a Bomb











































# "We did it the way we wanted to be treated."

Todd Howard,

game director and executive producer,

Bethesda Game Studios



#### Of Midcore Mobile Whales...

- 71% are big console spenders
- 69% are big core PC game spenders

[Source: Newzoo]









Love is in the heavily processed air! 50% off bundles in #FalloutShelter... sale ends today!



201

730



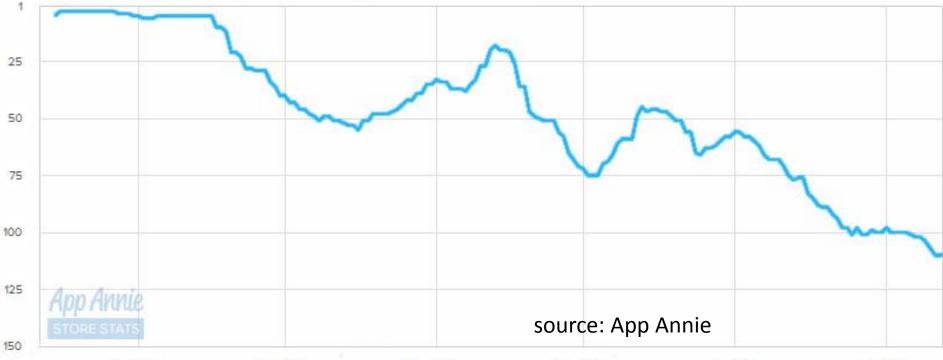
Fallout Shelter iOS Store Grossing Rank History 7/15/2015 (launch) thru 2/9/2016





#### Fallout Shelter Android Grossing Rank History 8/12/2015 (launch) thru 2/9/2016



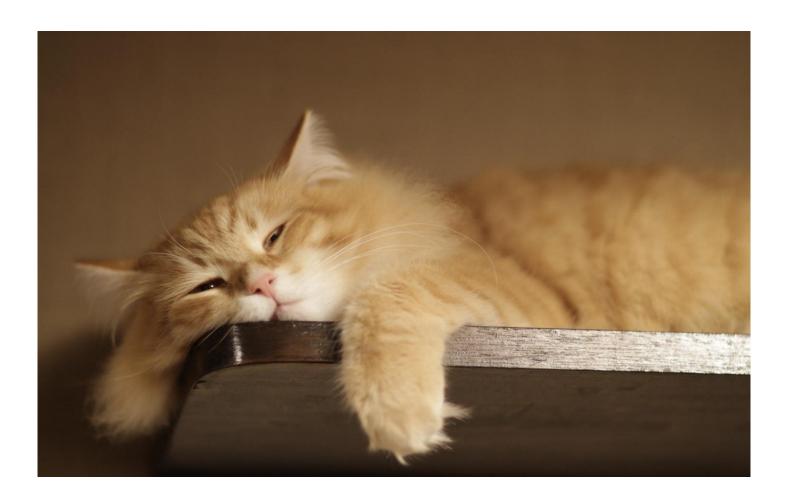


#### Lessons

- Core PC and console players are a lucrative mobile market.
- Expect more companion console/mobile launches.
- Follow the rules of good F2P design to ensure longer "legs".

#### Part 5

# Idle Hands Something Something





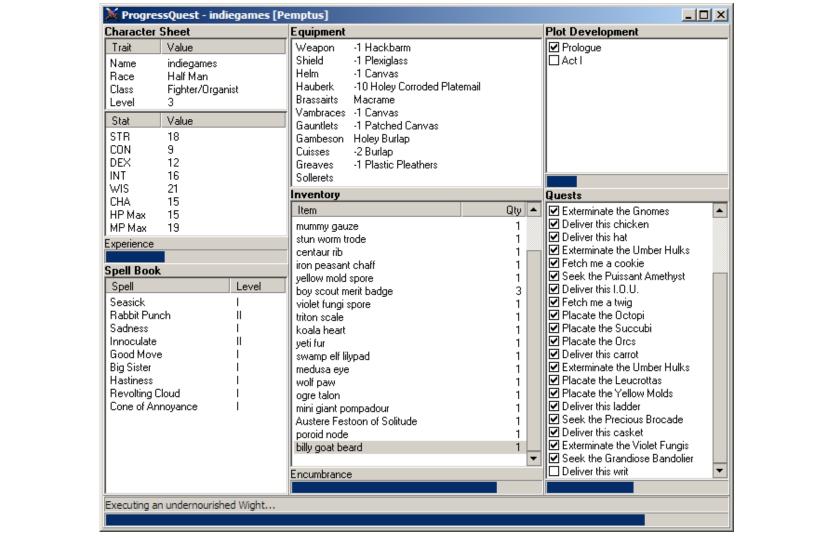
**Minimal interaction** 

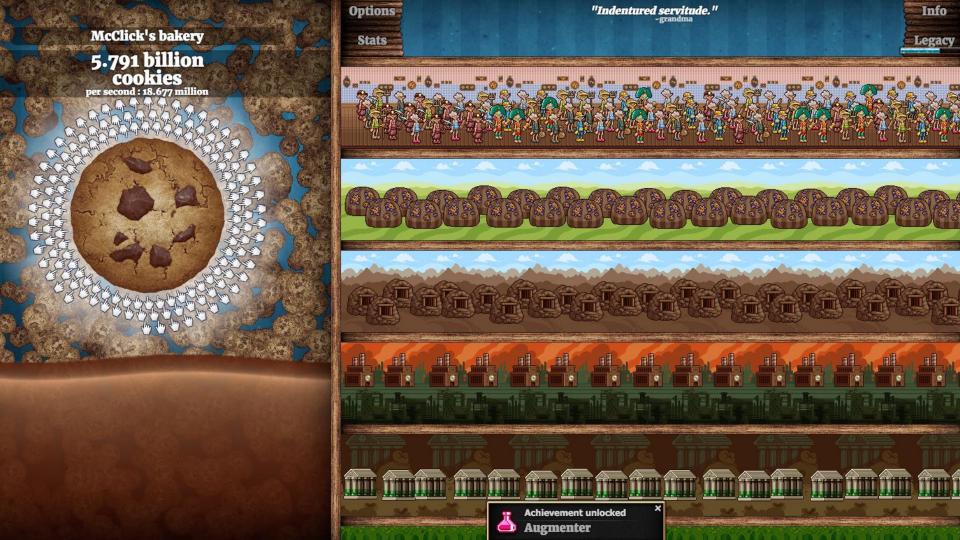


Interval rewards

### **Powers**









Get Offers In-App Purchases

This app is designed for both iPhone and iPad

#### \*\*\*\* (902)

20% off

#### Rating: 4+

#### TOP IN-APP PURCHASES

1.	20 GoldBars	\$1.9
2.	55 GoldBars	\$4.9
3.	115 Gold Bars	\$9.9
4.	First Time Buyer Bundle	\$3.9
5.	240 GoldBars	\$19.9
6.	625 GoldBars	\$49.9
7.	1300 GoldBars	\$99.9
8.	Get 115 Gold Bars for 20% off	\$7.9
9.	Get 240 Gold Bars for 25% off	\$14.9
10.	Get 625 Gold Bars for	\$39.9

### AdVenture Capitalist! 44

Kongregate >

Details Ratings and Reviews Related

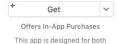
iPad

### Screenshots Phone









iPhone and iPad

### \*\*\*\* (1,118) Rating: 12+

### TOP IN-APP PURCHASES

1.	Premium Spin	\$0.99
2.	Auto Miner 1.0	\$1.99
3.	50 Hyperbits	\$1.99
4.	Auto Miner 2.0	\$3.99
5.	150 Hyperbits	\$4.99
6.	Coin Doubler	\$4.99
7.	Auto Miner 3.0	\$3.99
8.	Cat	\$0.99
9.	350 Hyperbits	\$9.99
10.	Auto-Miner 4.0	\$4.99

### Bitcoin Billionaire 12+

Noodlecake Studios Inc >

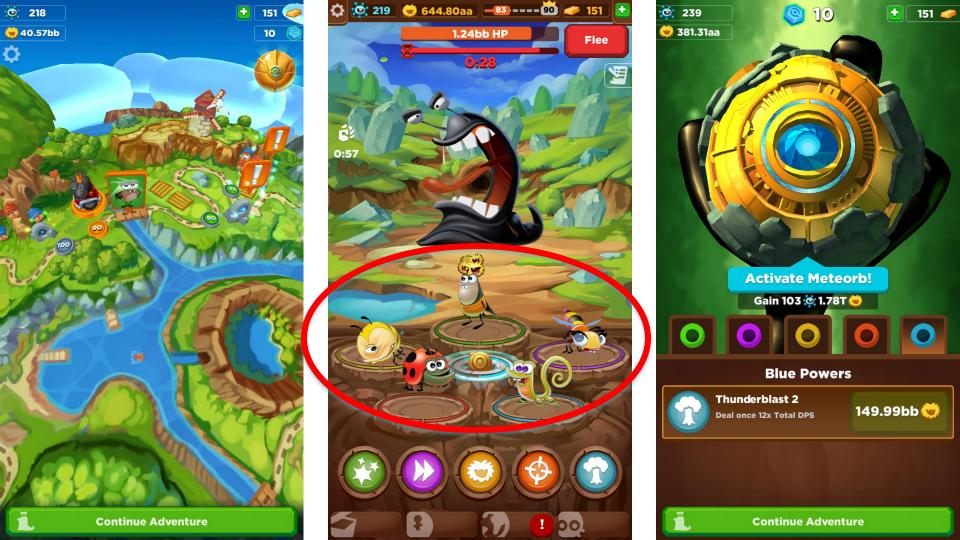
Details Ratings and Reviews Related

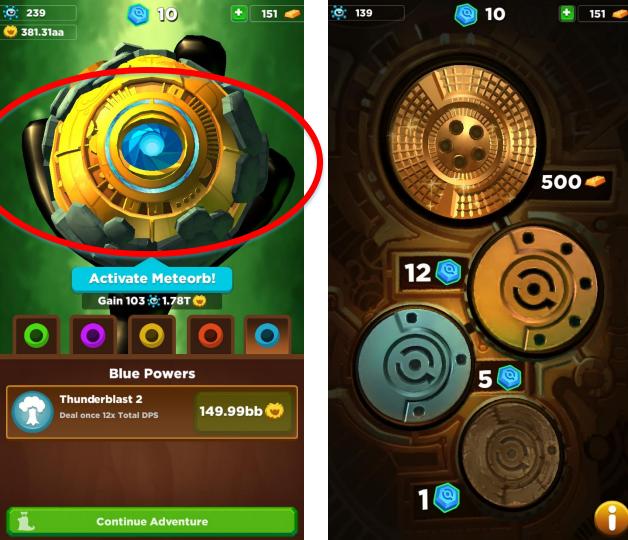
iPad

### Screenshots iPhone



















+ Get ~

Offers In-App Purchases

This app is designed for both iPhone and iPad

★★★★ (10)

Rating: 4+

### TOP IN-APP PURCHASES

1.	Premium Spin	\$0.99
2.	1000 gems	\$24.99
3.	25 gems	\$0.99
4.	150 gems	\$4.99
5.	550 gems	\$14.99
6.	310 gems	\$9.99
7.	Double notes FOREVER!	\$4.99
8.	Double daily gems	\$4.99

### Groove Planet 4+

Animoca Brands >

Details Ratings and Reviews

Related

iPad

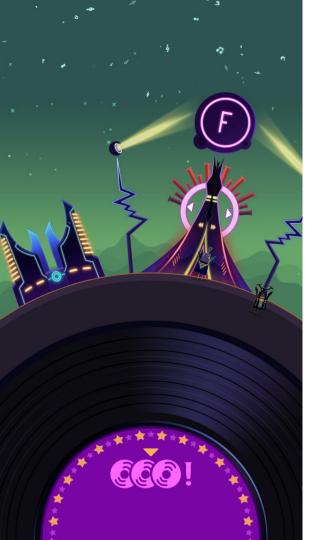
Screenshots

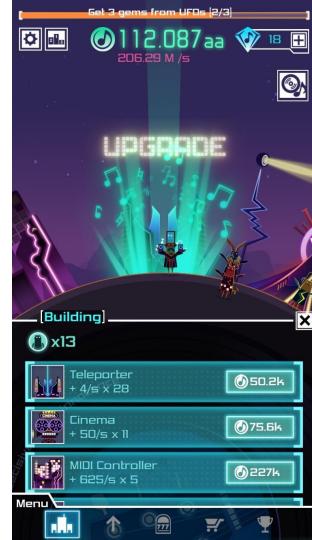
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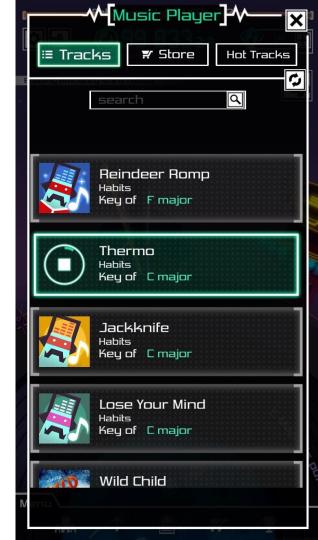


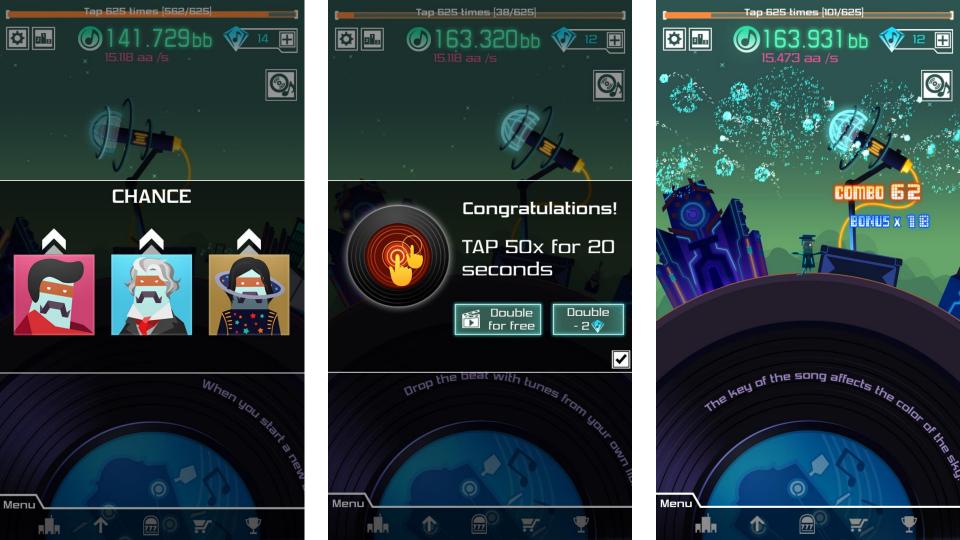


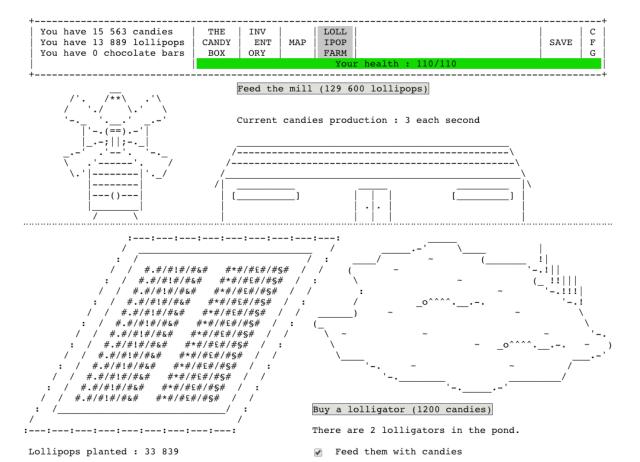
FOREVER!











Plant 1 10 100 1000 lollipops

Conversion candies -> lollipops activated Conversion rate : 8/sec

Production: 100 lollipops each second

## Lessons

Idle game are almost always addictive

Big opportunities for deeper idle gameplay in mobile

Aim for a marathon, not a sprint

## Part 6

# The Next Next Thing





# The Boys Are Back

# SUP ERC ELL









# The Boys Are Back

# SUP ERC ELL

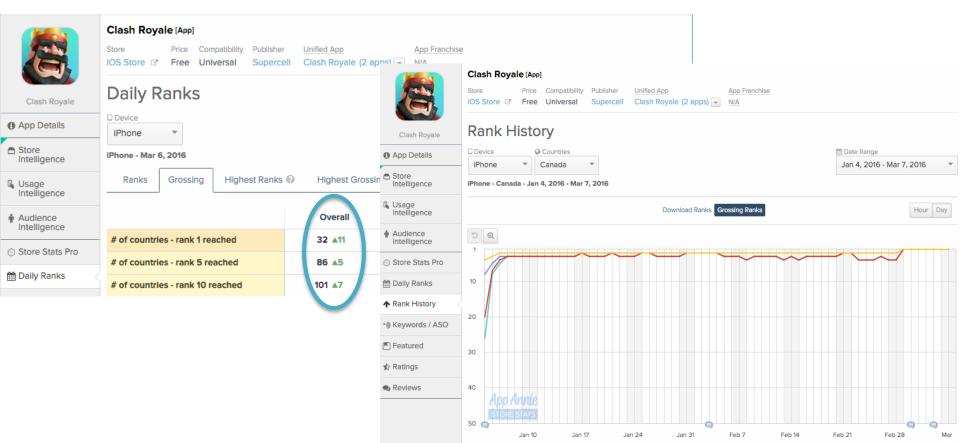








# The Boys Are Back























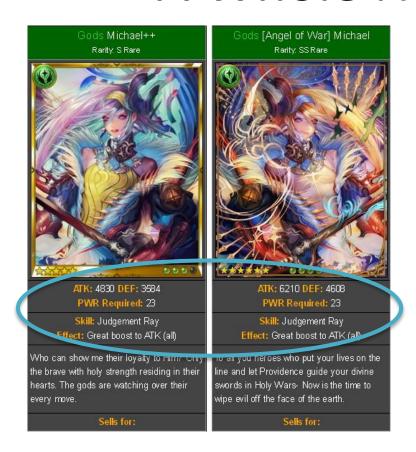


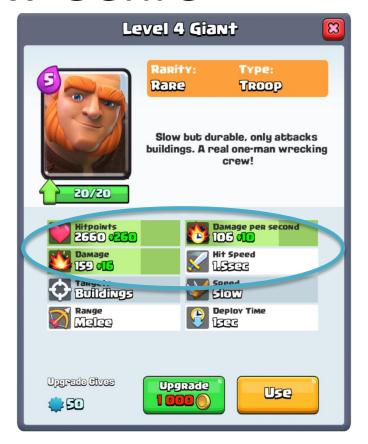




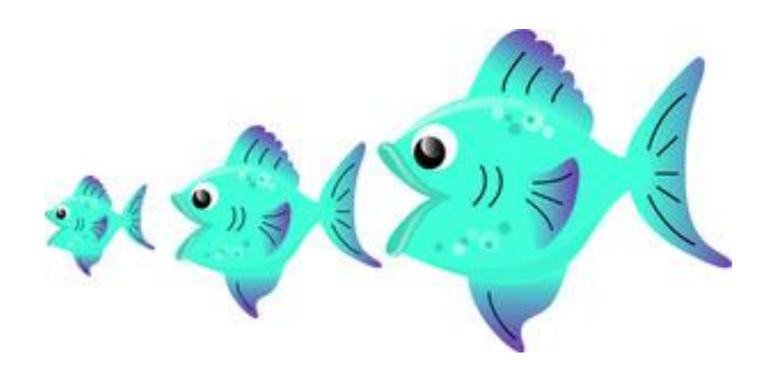








## Clever Uses of Time



## Clever Uses of Time – Seconds



## Clever Uses of Time – Minutes



## Clever Uses of Time – Minutes



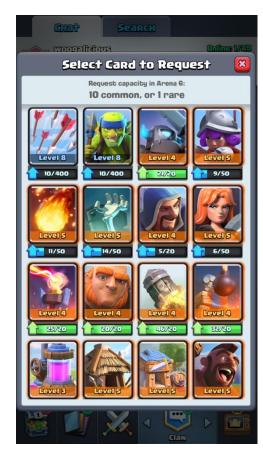
## Clever Uses of Time – Hours



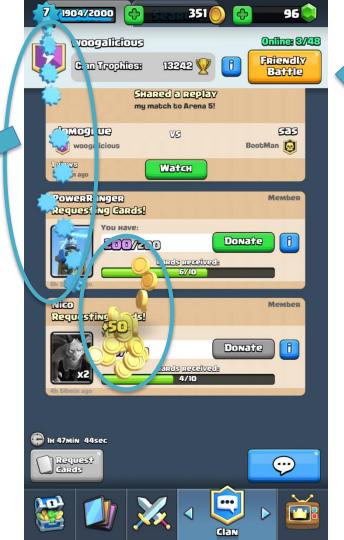




# Socialism









### Lessons

- Supercell has more hits in them
- Room for new genres
- Real-time PvP in mobile
- Appointments matter
- Great social is great
- Download now!

# **Questions?**

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