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Before EVERYTHING...

- Download Bloxels App to your Device
  - On both IOS and Android
  - Works with any size device

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- Presentation can be found at
  - http://www.bigguyinabowtie.com/cutting-edge-strategies.html

Things to Check Out

- Websites
  - ksuiteach.org
  - seeedudifferently.com
  - corecs.tech

http://bit.ly/bigguybowtievideo

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Idea Share!

http://bit.ly/bloxelsideashare

Share your thoughts on what you will use and how you will use Bloxels in your classroom!
Prize at the end for a favorite and random monthly prizes

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Building it Up with Bloxels

Presented by David Lockhart

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Our Agenda

- What is Bloxels?
- What does Bloxels Teach?
- What do I Need?
- Let's Get to Know the App
- What's my first step in building a game?
- Step 2: Building Game Boards
- Step 3: Decorating
- Step 4: Let's Configure
- Some Other Stuff
- Some Teaching Strategies

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About Me

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Work With US!

Let the Dynamic Iteach team support your school or district!

We have experts on staffing, personalized learning, blended learning, maker spaces, Google, Microsoft, Apple, and More!

We even can bring a Maker Space to you!

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY
Bagwell College of Education
iTeach

Contact David Lockhart at David@ksuiteach.org to get started!

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What is Bloxels?

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Bloxels is...

- A gaming platform that lets you build your own "Super Mario Style" Video Game without having to know anything about coding or programing

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What Can It Teach?

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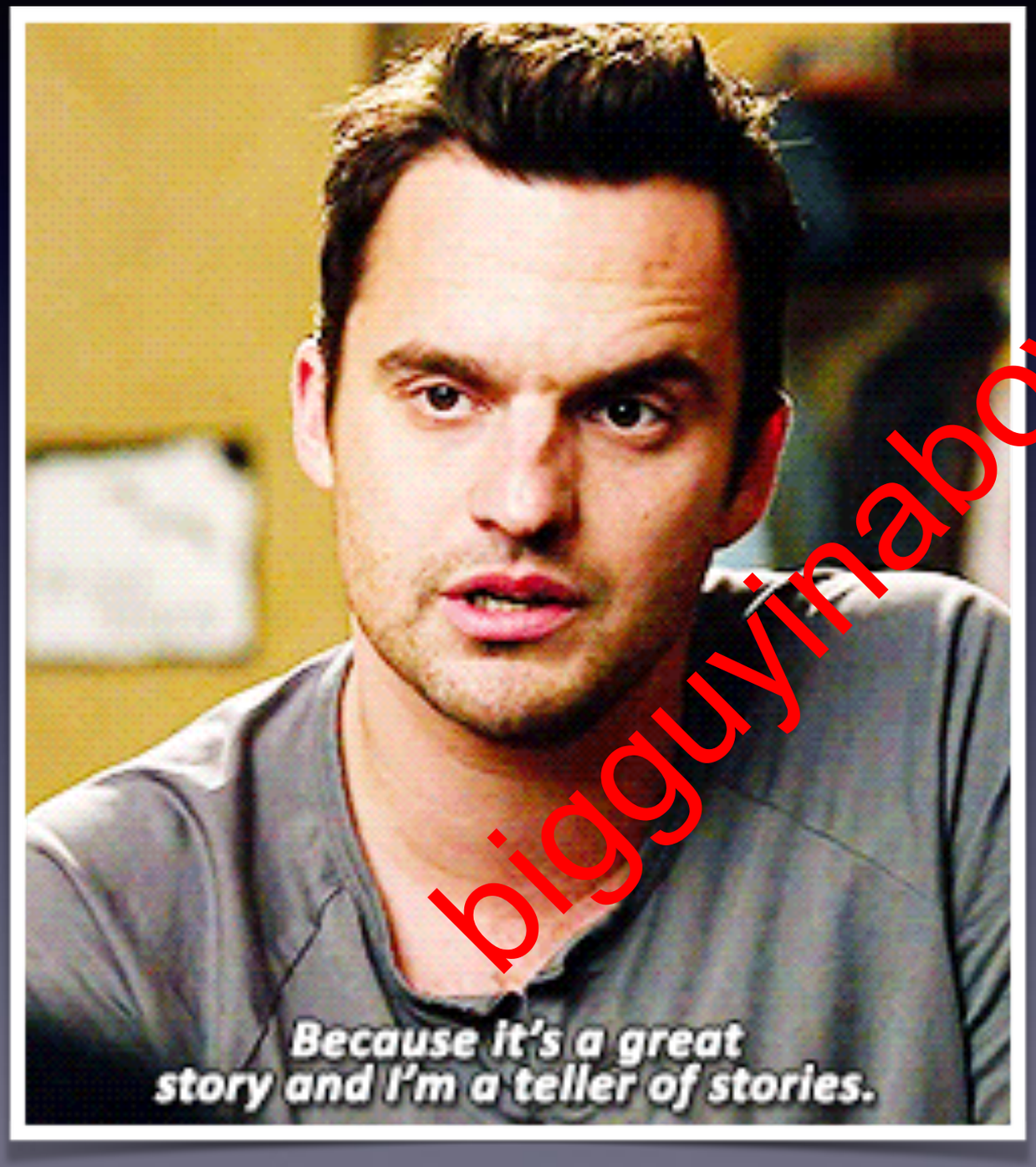
Anything with A Story...



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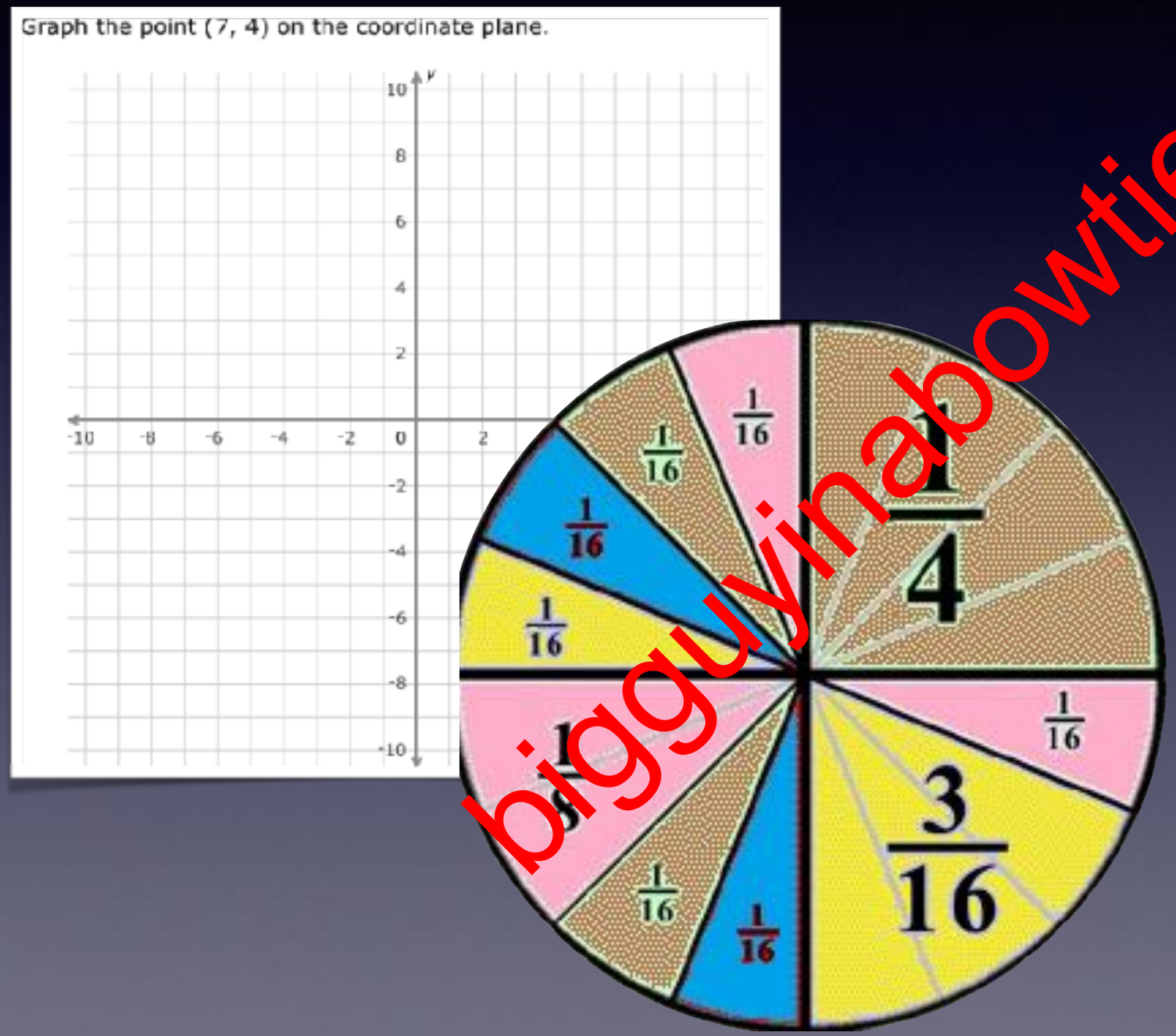
- Anything with a story can be made into a game so it could be great in both Social Studies and ELA

- Allows students to create within that content!

Math



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- Have students design things based on fractions
- Bloxels is basically a coordinate plane so ALOT you can do there

Problem Solving

- Bloxels is a great avenue to teach problem solving because they have to build levels they can actually do

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Design

- Bloxels is all about design!
- Student get the opportunity to think through every aspect of their digital design and easily iterate when something is not great

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What Do I Need?

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THE APP!!!

- The app is the most important part as it is where you put everything together
- You can build entire games without the board, but the boards do make it a better experience
- Cost: FREE!!!

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A Device

- Works on IOS
- Works on Android Devices and Chromebook's that support Android Apps
- Works on Kindle Fire
- Working on Other Devices like PC and Mac

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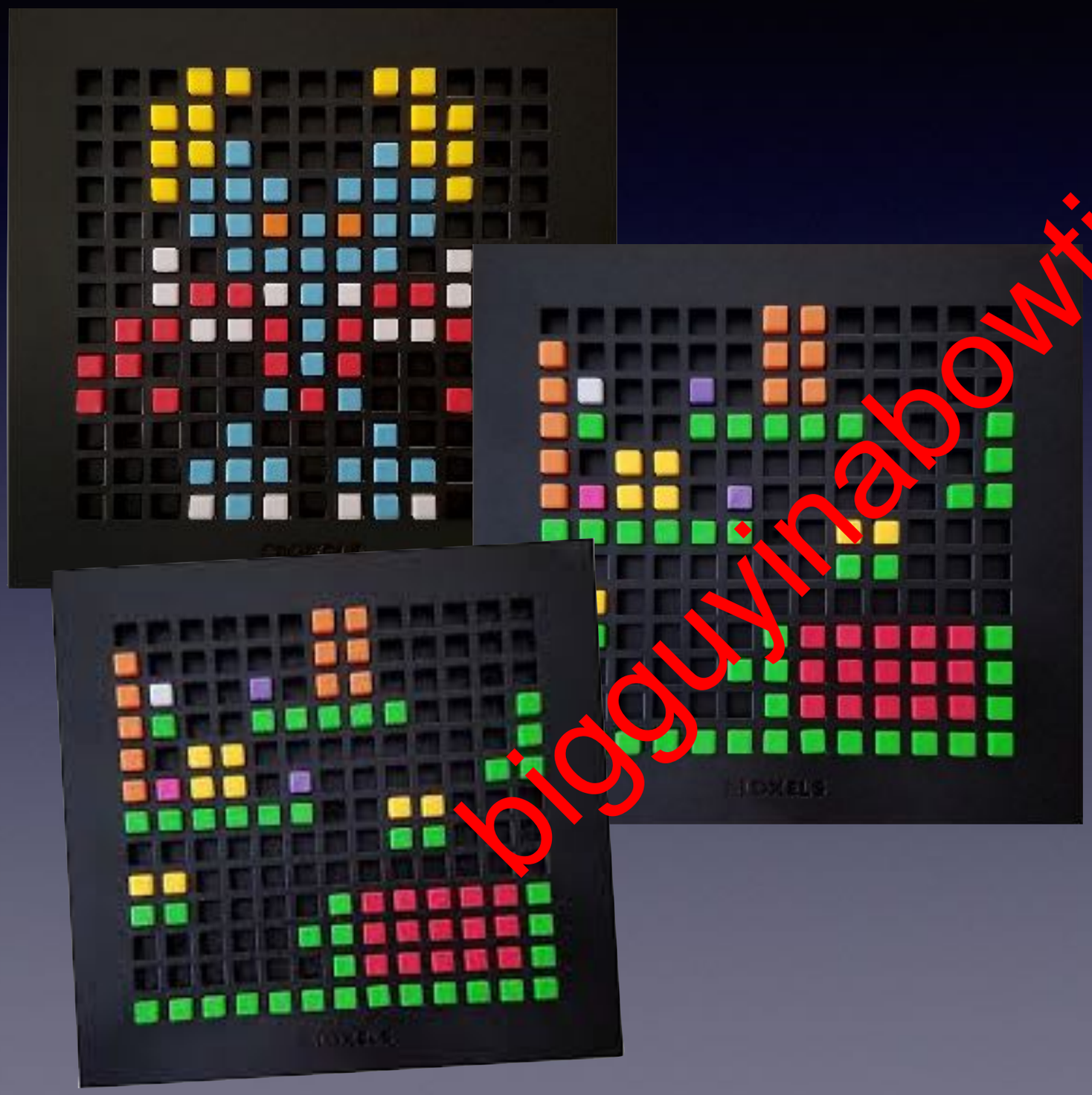
Boards



- You can build games with just the app, but boards enhance the experience
- Boards make tangible play easier
- Boards make it easier to collaborate
- Cost: $35

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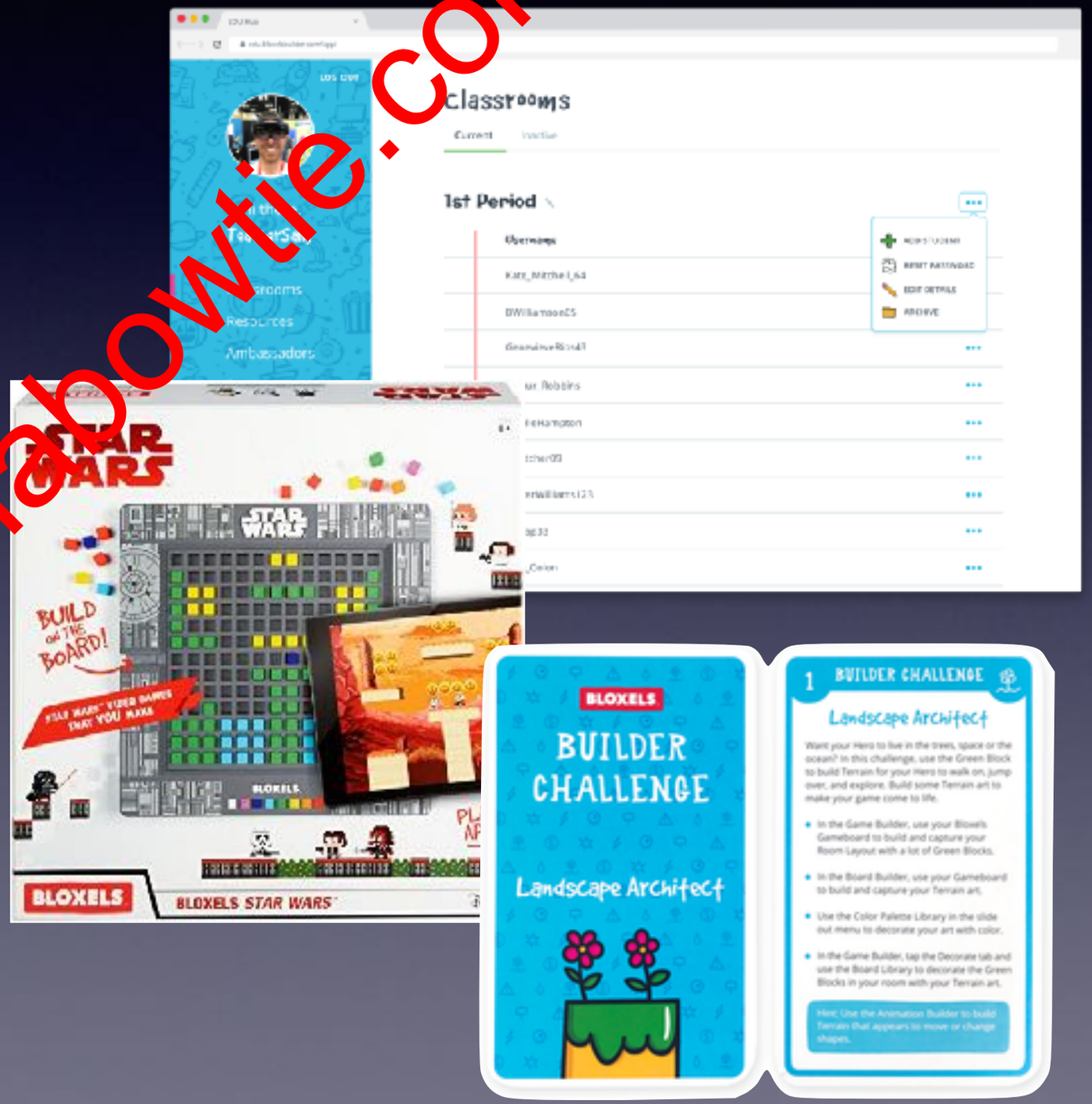
Some Other Things That You Might Want

- Star Wars Bloxels: Bloxels now has A Star Wars version! $49.99
- Bloxels Hub: Get access when purchase an education pack. Allows you to set up username and passwords so students can access Infinity Wall and can save work
- Challenge Cards: Make it easy to give kids a pre-built challenge. Around $50 for a combo set



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Let's Get to Know the App!

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Getting Started

1. Start by signing in here. Can create accounts for students in HUB

2. Then Click HERE

The app starts with a quick experience that lets you get a feel. We will come back to it, but we want to focus on game building

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Find Pre-Built animations, characters, art, and boards

3. Where you build games, and where we want to start

Takes you to pre-built game to try

Let's you find featured items from the Infinity Wall

Takes you to their blog to see how use cases and updates

Takes you back to the Demo Game

Change Music and Language Settings

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START SCREEN

Where you build game components

Where to build animated objects, like enemies

Where you build static backgrounds

Where you build your main characters

Where you build Static Art Components

BUILD NEW GAME

EDIT SAVED GAME

To Give You An Idea of What You Can Do in the Game Builder

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What's my first step to build a game?

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There are LOTS of Workflows to Do This! This just gives you one!

Also Remember....

- As we start building the game, you can do it ALL with the APP

- Doing it with the board though lets you

  - Have students collaborate

  - Play and Design with a Tangible Object

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ADD CHARACTER

Let's Start With Your Main Character

1. To Get There Click Here

2. Use the Board or App to Flesh Out What The Character Looks Like

Use these to move character on board and flip to make animation easier

Animation States

Idle

Walk

Jump

4. Do a board for What He Looks Like in All 3 Possible Movements

3. Can Animate Each Individual Movement by Adding Boards Here. Think Stop Motion

To Capture Analog Boards

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It's Time for a DEMO!

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What to Do

- Mess Around With Your Character

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For More Resources

- http://bit.ly/bloxelsplayground

Share

- http://bit.ly/breakoutideashare

Step 2: Building Game Boards

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First Thing to Know: A Key!

Green Blocks are Land. Static, can walk on, can't punch through

Red Blocks are LAVA! Hazards that can kill your character

Blue Blocks are Water Hazards. Can Fall through if high, but otherwise a HAZARD

Yellow Blocks are Coins. Super Important if want to use Infinity Wall

Purple Blocks Are Enemies. Can Shoot, Throw Bombs, Or Jump Over Them

White Blocks are Checkpoints. Use them to Tell Part of the Story

Orange Blocks are exploding land type blocks. Use them to get creative

Pink Blocks are Power Ups to Give Your Character Special Abilities

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START SCREEN

hello

Start by Tapping Here and Click Build New Game

169
UNLOCKED

Click on a square to add a board. Can Start Anywhere!

I like to leave the first one and start on a second one as it gives me some space to start the game. Rather then having things challenge right away

1
USED

Map

LAYOUT

CONFIGURE

DECORATE

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To Add Your Character

Filter By Tags

Games

Animations

Backgrounds

Characters

Boards

3. Tap the Arrow and the Character You Want. You can actually start him anywhere by tapping one of the squares

1. Tap Configure

2. Tap the Character Icon

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LAYOUT

CONFIGURE

DECORATE

START SCREEN

hello!

Build what you want that section of the game to look like, play CLOSE attention to the Block KEY!

This gets you back to the big board to build more levels

Start by Tapping Layout

To Capture Analog Boards

Tap Here to Try it Out!

BLOXELS

Layout

LAYOUT

CONFIGURE

DECORATE

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It's Time for a DEMO!

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What to Do

- Add Your Character
- Build a Game Board or Two!
- Don't Worry, YOU WILL HAVE MORE TIME!

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For More Resources

- http://bit.ly/bloxelsplayground

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- http://bit.ly/bloxelsideashare

Step 3:

Decorating

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Filter By Tags

Games

Animations

Backgrounds

Characters

Boards

Tap Animations if you want to replace one of the blocks with something that moves. Good for Things Like Enemies

Tap Boards if you want to replace one of the blocks with something that doesn't move. Good for Things Like Land

Tap this Arrow to Access Options

To Change blocks, Just tap on what you want to change it to in the left hand menus and then tap on the block. To make things quicker, you can tap and drag to get multiple blocks

LAYOUT

CONFIGURE

DECORATE

Tap Decorate and then the Pen to Decorate Existing Blocks

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It's Time for a DEMO!

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What to Do

- Play with some decoration in the Boards You Have Built

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For More Resources

- http://bit.ly/bloxelsplayground

Share

- http://bit.ly/bloxelsideashare

What if the Art Doesn't Match What I Want?

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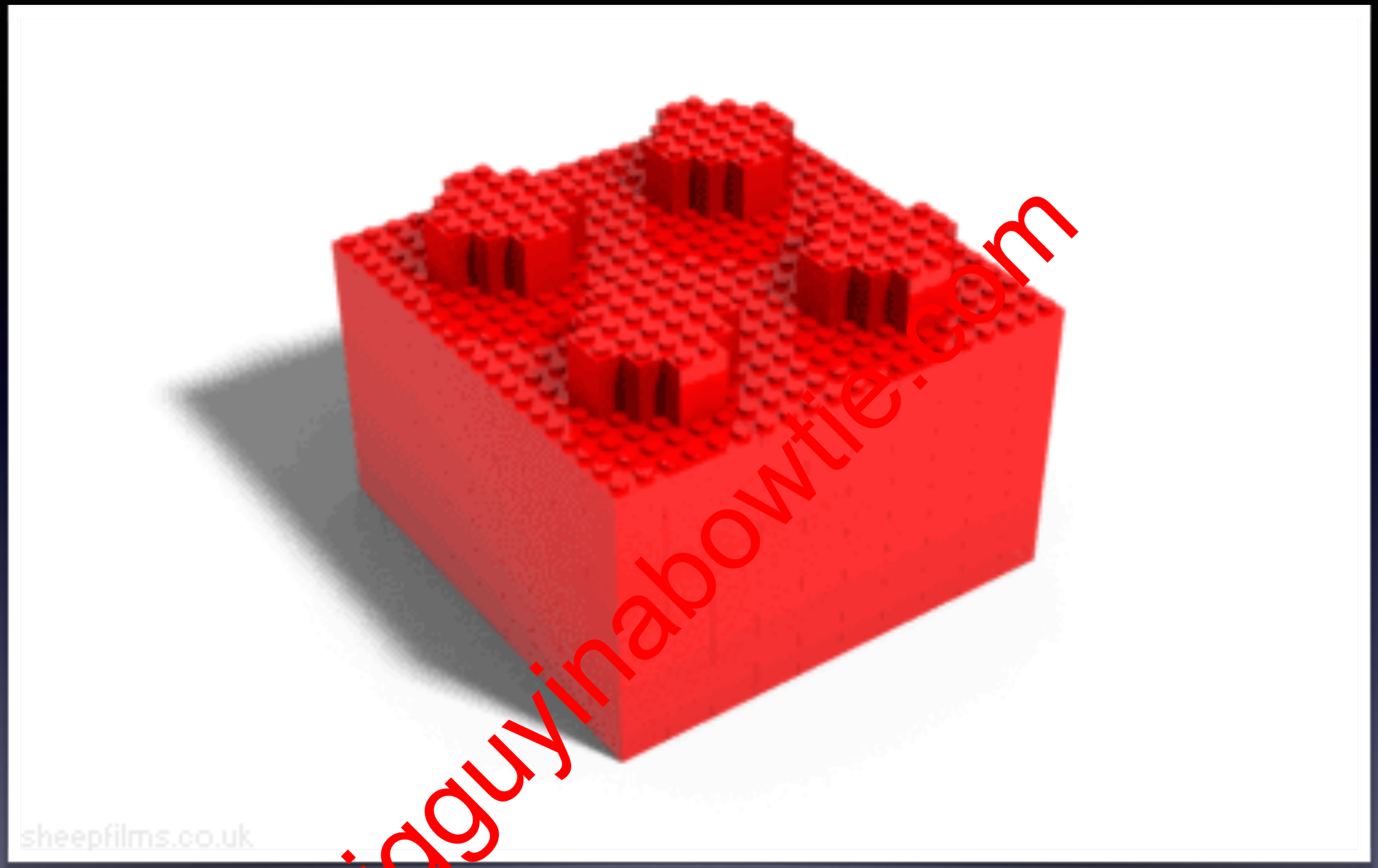

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Build Your OWN!

Moving Objects

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ADD ANIMATION

Start by tapping here

Use Arrows to make Animating Easier

Design Your Character or Object

To Capture Analog Boards

Add Frames to Animate. Think Stop Motion!

When done, just go back to game builder and pull animated object in

3 FRAME

Frames Per Second

6

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Static Objects

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ADD BoARD

Arrows are mostly to do Backgrounds but will flip view on board

Start by tapping here

Design Your Character or Object

To Capture Analog Boards

When done, just go back to game builder and pull animated object in

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It's Time for a DEMO!

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What to Do

- Mess Around with Animations and Board Builder

For More Resources

- http://bit.ly/bloxelsplayground

Share

- http://bit.ly/bloxelsideashare

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Backgrounds

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ADD BoARD

hello

Step 1: Build one small corner of what your background will look like in Boards

Use Arrows to Mirror Parts Like if You Have Buildings in the Background

To Capture Analog Boards

BLOXELS

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Filter By Tags

Games

Animations

Backgrounds

Characters

Boards

Tap the Arrow and Boards to Pick Out the Board You Just Made

Tap Here to Start Building your Background

Fill in the Blocks by tapping and Dragging. 1 Board per Block.

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Filter By Tags

Games

Animations

Backgrounds

Characters

Boards

Go Back to Game Builder

2. Tap the Arrow and then Pick the Background You Want to Add

1. Tap Decorate and then the Background Add Button

This Button will let you add boards as simple background decoration

LAYOUT

CONFIGURE

DECORATE

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It's Time for a DEMO!

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What to Do

- Try Out Some Backgrounds

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For More Resources

- http://bit.ly/bloxelsplayground

Share

- http://bit.ly/bloxelsideashare

Step 4: Let's Configure

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START SCREEN

hello!

Go to Game Builder

Can what type of power you get when you destroy it

Can write out information for the player to learn

Can change what type of enemy you are battling

Tap here to change actions on certain blocks

Tap Configure

Tap Here to Add Music

CONFIGURE

DECORATE

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It's Time for a DEMO!

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What to Do

- Spend Some Time Configuring

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For More Resources

- http://bit.ly/bloxelsplayground

Share

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Some Other Stuff

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The INFINITY WALL

Click the block on the Wall you want to have as you build

- Purple: Game Boards
- Green: Backgrounds
- Red: Characters
- Blue: Animations
- Orange: Static Objects

Click Here and Infinity Wall to See It

Click Here to Add to your Library. Based off number of coins you get playing

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The Home Screen

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Some Teaching Strategies

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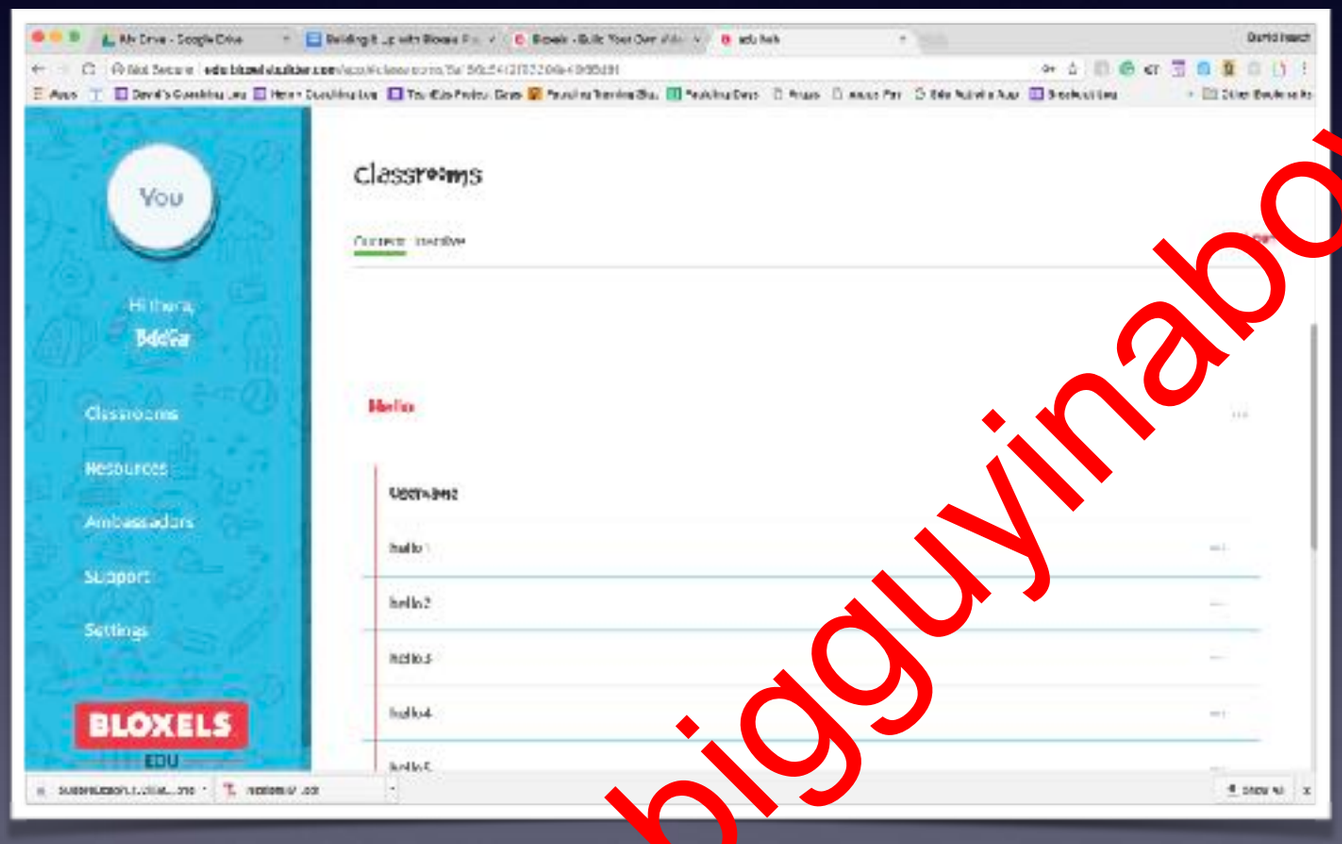
1. Get the Class Kit and Set Up Classes



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- Setting up classes allows you to set username and password for younger student
- This lets them have access to the Infinity Wall to open up creativity
- Also, easier collaboration with the board

2. Let them try out the Home Screen

- The home screen can be a good starting place for students to try out Bloxels

- Let them just try it out without much direction to see if they can get it

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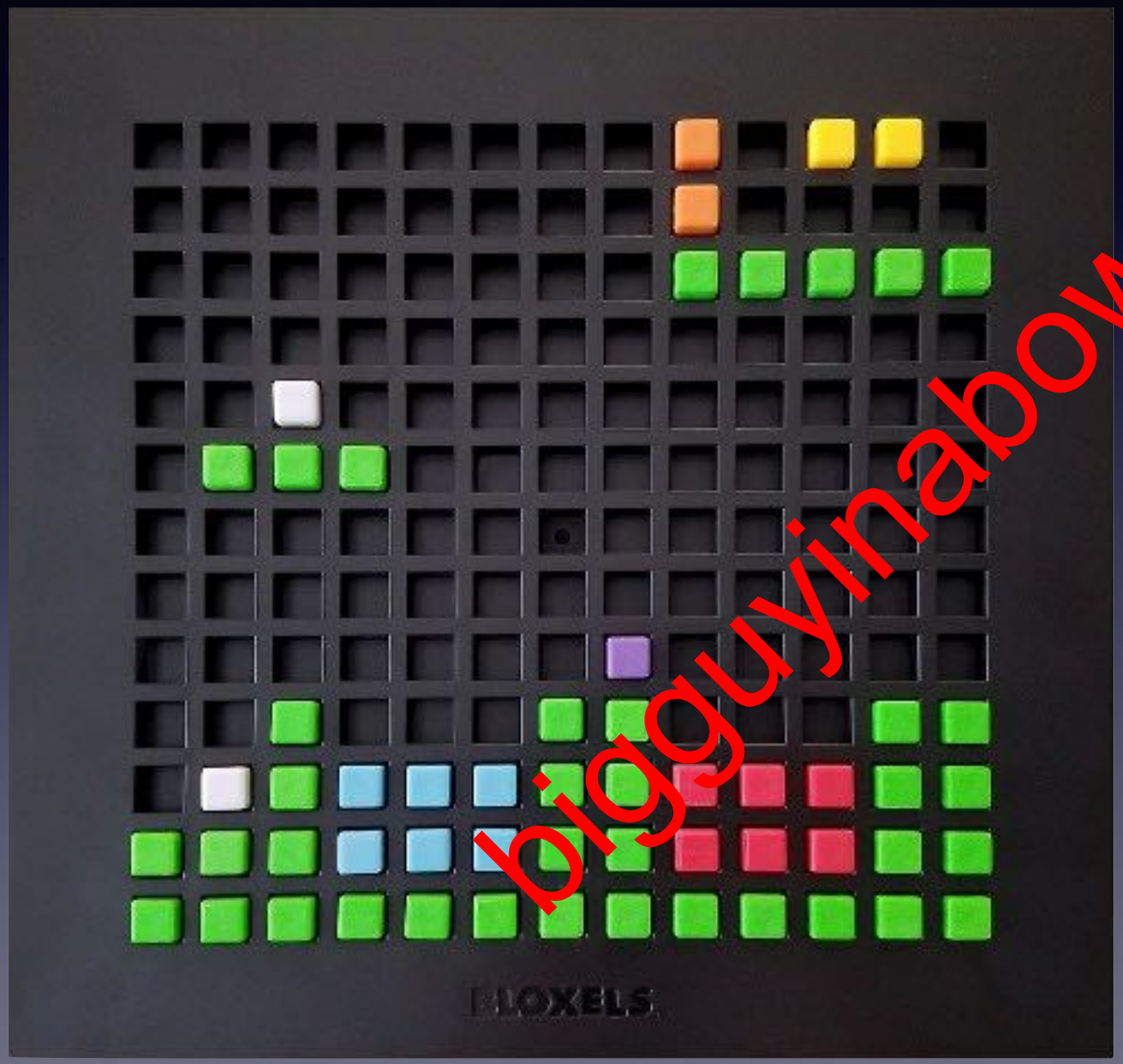
3. Set up an Example Board



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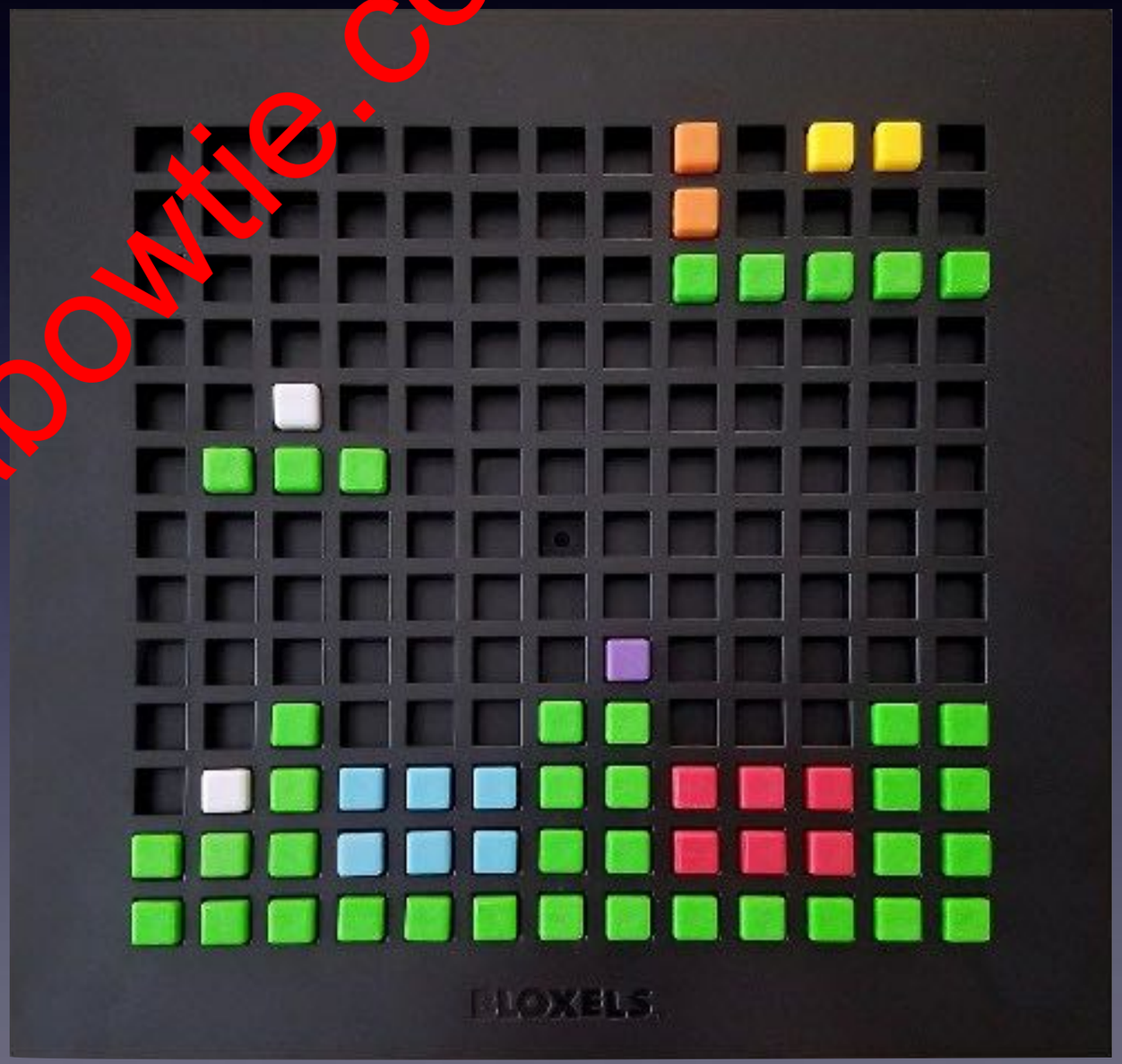
- Kids naturally just want to put squares on the board
- Build an example that is simple and uses every piece as a starting point for kids

4. Build a Board or Two and then Add Stuff

- Kids need to get the handle of boards more then anything to get this to work
- You can do the main character first if you prefer, but might want to have kids build a few boards before you try to decorate and configure



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5. Once they have the hang of it, PLAN!

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- Give them time to get the hang of it

- Then to make it meaningful with content, you will want plan levels before you get deep into the app

What to Do

- Take Time to CREATE a Game

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For More Resources

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Share

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thank you!

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