

My Secret Pixel Art!

Design your own digital character using a real pixel grid!

How Computer Screens See Pictures

Remember Walden's tiny baby photo from 1957? It was made of just 176×176 square dots! Every picture on a screen is just a giant grid of colored boxes. When you stand far away, your eyes blend them into dragons, video games, and videos.

Step 1: Pick Your Pixel Palette

Assign a number or letter to each color in your character:

 R = Fire Red

 Y = Belly Yellow

 G = Dragon Green

 K = Black Outline

 B = Eye Blue

□ W = White / Empty

Pro Coder Tip!

Start by coloring the eyes and mouth near the center. Keep shapes chunky and simple! In early video games, artists only had 8 to 16 pixels of space to make characters like Mario and Pac-Man!

[illegible]

Teacher & Parent Challenge!

Turn your drawing into code! Pick row 1 and write down its instructions like a real computer scanner:

"4 White, 6 Green, 4 White".

Can a friend recreate your drawing just by listening to your code?