What’s in this presentation?

• More hand drawn art
• 10 slide summary of all the games plot
• Jenkins as applied to Pokémon
• Pokémon as a Semiotic Domain
What is Pokémon?

• Japanese RPG Series
• Travel with party of 6 Pokémon
• Battle other trainers in turn based combat
• A total of 13 core games
• Diamond/Pearl most recent
• Transmedia Franchise
  – Cartoon Series, Card Game, Movies
Pokémon Professor
Boy or Girl?
Wild Pokémon
Starter Pokémon
A New Challenger Appears
8 Gyms in 8 Cities
More Wild Pokémon
Evil Conspiracy Abusing Pokémon
Yes, they’re in the water too
The Pokémon League
Why does it work?

• Emergent Narrative

• Enacted Story
  – Play along with the cartoon series

• Evocative Spaces
  – Recognize spaces from the cartoon
Pokémon: the Meta-Game

• Online and Competitive Battling
• Comes “After” the narrative
• The “Good” part for some
Pokemon as a Semiotic Domain

- Multilayered, literacy is actually really hard
  - Battle Basics
  - Types
  - Levels
  - Pokémon Stats
  - Moves, move types, move power, STAB, ...
  - IV’s
  - EV’s
  - Breeding
  - Pokérus
  - Natures
  - Items
  - Accuracy
  - Abilities
Breeding Example
Compatibility

Skitty
Setting the mood
An Egg Appears
Summary

• Variety of ways to play and understand Pokémon
  — Narrative
    • Emergent/Enacted/Evocative
  — Meta-game
    • Depth and complexity to explore

• Something for everyone really
Comments?