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## Comcast tv guide game show network

NEW YORK (TheStreet) -- Facebook (FB) - Get Report claims to be a social network, but it's increasingly a gaming network. That's where the money is. Games take time, so the market is something of a zero-sum game. Gaming is a bit like music of different tastes. My daughter, for example, is a social gamer, while my son is into console strategy games. The time they take games is mostly taken from television. I have the set to myself these days. The big news at games in recent years has been the rise of social games, which started with games like Farmville from Zynga (ZNGA) - Get Report, which my daughter played for months. Notice that my writing played. In social gaming, trends rise and fall like pop songs. Social games don't require a lot of bandwidth and are relatively simple. By seizing this ground, Facebook has become the dominant gaming platform. During a speech at this week's GameDev conference in San Francisco this week Sean Ryan, Facebook's head of game partnerships who came from News Corp. (NWS) - Get a report in 2011, delivered some big numbers about the success of this strategy. See more: Apple just released another 'cheap iPhone' &TODAY there are 250 million gaming users on Facebook, the company paid \$2 billion to developers in the past year, and over 100 developers took home over \$1 million of that money, as reported by WebBrandMedia's website within Facebook. Facebook's big news at the conference was that it was willing to pay developers in local currency. Ryan admitted that Facebook's niche is in casual games, like Farmville. The latest in this line is the Candy Crush saga King.com, London, England. But by being the home of such games Facebook is at the center of a \$3 billion business, he said. WebMediaBrand's Appdata site tracks the use of games on Facebook. His numbers reveal. The top developers are mostly the names you know including Zynga, Microsoft (MSFT) - Get a Report and Yahoo! (YHOO) along with some new European-based game makers such as King.com. Ryan wants to grow Facebook with what he calls core games, which are deeper, more similar to console games, adding that a number of such titles will soon be released on Facebook. But for a panel of top game developers covered by Thomas Cleburne from Information Week, Facebook is fading and developers are running away from its toxic mentality to get rich quickly. Facebook's days as the end of social games, according to these developers, and the big growth will come elsewhere. You could call it whiny, but history shows investors need to listen carefully. Not only are games and gaming companies changing rapidly, but also gaming platforms. Just 15 years ago David Schiff wrote in Game Over about how Nintendo had taken over the market and dominated for years. Nintendo has since risen and fell several times, and right now its Wii U gaming console is the industry's disaster of the year, as even the WiiUDaily admits. Nintendo Eclipsed by Sony (SNE) - Capacitor PlayStation, which was eclipsed in the U.S. by Microsoft's Xbox. Microsoft itself has built a big market in pc games that have played like console games, and the leader in this business is Valve Software, whose Steam platform manages distribution but is now threatened by Microsoft's own Appstore, which wants to emulate Apple (AAPL) - get a report and take over that end of the business. (That's how Valve builds its own console, the steam box.) More to see: BlackBerry: Game Over &TODAY Facebook is trying to do is climb the pile of complexities, from low-end casual and social games played by my daughter to high-end console strategy games played by my son. All I can say is that if it can get these two together it will be a first. And, like a family dinner, it won't last. At the time of publication, the author was long YHOO, NWS and AAPL. Follow @DanaBlankenhornThis is an independent contributor's commentary, separate from TheStreet's regular news coverage. Apple TV isn't just for watching iTunes or Netflix anymore! There are lots of great games you can play alone or with family and friends. Some even work with a Bluetooth gaming board for a real feel console! But which Apple TV games are the best? Here are our favorites! Note: Some games actually require an MFi-approved controller, so be sure to read the game requirements before purchasing. I'll mention them downstairs, too. Crossy Road Yes, Crossy Road is available for iPhone and iPad, but it's much more fun on the big screen! The graphics are simplistic but absolutely stunning and the games on the Siri sign is surprisingly great. You can also play in multiplayer mode, using an iPhone or iPad as the second controller! Multiplayer is funny fun because you're actually just trying to knock the other person out and leave them in the dust. You can also open up all sorts of fun characters, like robots, farm animals and more - all in pursuit of going as far as possible without making do with a tractor-trailer. yes, it's Frogger, but it's a frogger we reimagined for today. Free with in-app purchases - For more information Rayman Adventures the craziest part of Rayman Adventures is that it's free. Sure, there are in-app purchases to help you move faster, but if you don't want to pay, you don't have to. And there are more than 1,000 adventures on the charming and fun platform to the bib. (You can also disable in-app purchases so that the downsects don't make your credit card more clear.) You play as Rayman, of course, making your way through countless levels, defeating enemies and collecting Incrediballs, while facing terrifying boss battles along the way. If you like a good platformer with some amazing visuals, then don't think twice and just download Rayman Adventures. Come on. It's free, but there are some interesting in-app purchases. You don't need a game controller for that, but it makes it a lot easier to play. Free with in-app purchases - learn more about dungeons 5 Dungeon Hunter is amazing. Play solo RPG campaign mode and hunt monsters through 69 missions, or play co-op mode with up to three other players, and hack and cut your way through dungeon after dungeon. You can even hire friends as alliance helpers to help you. You also have to play defense, creating trap rooms and building stronger shields so no one takes away your precious gold. There are hundreds of character customizations, so if you're into RPGs at all, it should definitely be on your Apple TV. Especially since it's... Wait for it. Free! There are daily and weekly events, so the game never gets stale and you always try to achieve different goals instead of just cutting and leaking. Free with in-app purchases - learn more about AG Drive like racing games? Remember F Zero? Of course you do. If you like F-Zero, you will love the very similar AG drive. In this Apple Editor's Choice app, you race futuristic anti-gravity vehicles around beautiful cityscapes on tracks made of steel beams. It's very atmospheric, and if you're into science fiction, you'll be pretty fascinated. You only need to buy it once and you can play on all your devices (although your progress is out of sync from apple TV to iPhone or iPad, or vice versa). There are several different race situations so things don't get stale. But there's no multiplayer mode, so you'll have to take turns on the Apple TV. Still, it's totally worth it. \$3 - Learn More Alto's Adventure Adventure Alto is an amazing game. So much more than an endless mattress, you play like Alto, snowboard down slopes, grab llots, collect coins, and do tricks. And it's amazing. Like gorgeous, gorgeous. The soundtrack is lovely and although everything is done or die, you don't really feel this pressure like you do with Temple Run or even Super Mario Run. Time passes along the way, and the landscape changes, as you snowboard through mountain villages at sunset, grinding bunting lines and roofs. It's the most relaxing time you'll ever spend playing an endless runner, and you won't even be so strangled when you necessarily land on your head trying to do a back snout. \$5 - Learn more SongPop Party SongPop Party allows you to play with up to five other people using the remote iOS app, making it the perfect party or family game. All you have to do is swipe to answer questions about music. The faster you are, the more points you get. It's free to play, although you can make in-app purchases to speed up the unlocking process if you want. There's a bunch of genres to choose from, so there's something for everyone, and there's a team of cute characters to choose from. Note: Some songs have explicit lyrics and there's no way to turn it off, so be careful when playing with the little ones. The game is rated 12+ in the App Store. Free with in-app purchases - Learn more about SketchParty TV Love Pictionary? Boom, Sketchy-Parti TV is for you. This is another great side game where you draw clues on your iPhone or iPad You have to guess for points. You can get up to eight people, per team game, so this app is ideal especially for big parties. You'll need the device device available for AirPlay that can mirror the Apple TV to turn it on. \$5 - Learn more Oceanhorn Take one look at the game, the main character's moves, the plot, and you'll be all yes, cloning Zelda. But that's not a bad thing. Actually, it's just the opposite. In Ushhorn, you must grow from son to man, looking for your father only with his old notebook and a mysterious necklace to guide you. You'll sail the unchartered days, solve riddles, fight monsters, learn magic, and collect treasure, while you play to discover the secrets of Arcadia and the sea monster, Oceanhorn. You don't have to use a game controller to play it on one Apple TV, but it certainly makes the whole experience more enjoyable. So much so that my colleague, Luke, even included him in his hunt for Apple's best TV games to play with controllers. If you like adventurous fun, amazingly presented, and playing just like Zelda, then check out Oceanhorn. This Apple TV must be. \$8 - Learn more Lumino City Lumino City may just be the coolest mobile game ever. The premise is relatively simple; Your grandfather, Lumino City's caretaker

has been kidnapped, and it's up to you, like Lomi, to explore the city and understand the mechanisms that make it work, collect items and bring them back to where they complete a circle or mechanism. The real treat here is the scenery, which is all handmade cardboard, paper, miniature lights, and engines. The handmade material was scanned and digitized to be animated in the game, and it flows in a-a-a-treatment. The soundtrack is also fascinating since it stops and starts and kind of pulses in and out, making for the unique gaming experience that really turns every platformer/adventure/puzzle game on its head. There are tons of different kinds of puzzles, so things never get stale and keep you thinking every step of the way. It's just a very relaxing game, and if you enjoy Little Big Star at all, then definitely check it out. Regardless of anything, totally check out Omino City. It would be a travesty if you didn't. \$5 - Learn Another Horizon Chase - World Tour Remember these classic arcade racing games from last year? Horizon Chase - World Tour does a great job of re-creating this sense of nostalgia with a modern 16-bit low poly look and feel. At Horizon Chase, you'll be spat against other AI rivals in beautiful, rich places from all over the world. These courses are quite true to life, so you'll see familiar places and landscapes, as well as some new places you might not have seen in real life yet, but they exist. You can compete in 21 different cars that are all upgradeable, and there are 10 cups spread out in 40 cities, with a total of 92 tracks to compete on. Although it's free to download Horizon Chase, it's basically a demo with five free tracks — You like it, you can pay to open the rest of the game. Horizon Chase - World Tour is one of my favorite racing games, and it's definitely mandatory on your Apple TV. It supports seven different input methods, including MFi game board support. Free with in-app purchases - Learn More Lichtspeer Lichtspeer is a unique and strange fast-paced game about throwing light in an ancient German future. yes, you read it right. This unique title brings back the nostalgia of the 1980s and is quite brutal, stylish and psychedelic. You are in a land full of penguin vikings, Wurst zombies, hipster ice giants, and many other wise enemies, and your goal is to survive. How do you get it? With momentum and light and a bit of a good goal. In Lichtspier, you'll have access to 10 upgradeable Lichtpower forces to help you get through more than 60 challenging levels, and there are also six tough bosses to deal with. While you might think that throwing spears is easy, you're going to have to put your skills to the test in this crazy game. \$4 - Learn more if you enjoyed limbo, then you'll love Playdead's inside. This game builds on what made great limbo and ended up creating something even bigger. Inside is a beautiful bi-miyaw puzzle platformer that is immersive, timeless, and totally fun. The puzzles can be quite complicated and cunning, but that just means it's much more rewarding once you solve them and move forward. The game is also full of dark humor and WTF moments as you unravel the fascinating story. Free with in-app purchases - Learn more Shadowmatic Are you the kind of person who will look at the clouds and try to figure out what the shape of the cloud is? If so, then Shadowmatic is a puzzle game designed for you. Shadowmatic is a puzzle game where you have abstract objects that have to be rotated around in the spotlight until they start to create familiar silhouettes in the shadows. Your clues are the environment that each stage has, as the shadow silhouette will crystallize something related to the overall theme. There are over 10 rooms and different themes, which is quite relaxing to play. There is also more DLC content if you finish the main game. \$4 with in-app purchases - learn more asphalt 8: Airborne love modern racing games with fancy cars and crazy speeds? Then asphalt 8: Airborne is a must. While speed is the name of the game (not literally), it's not the only exciting and fun thing about asphalt 8. You'll also need to focus on some great jumping stunts and airtime to get ahead in racing with your favorite cars. In Asphalt 8, you can choose from Ferrari, Ducati, Lamborghini, McLaren, Bugatti, Mercedes, Audi, Ford, Chevrolet and more. Whatever kind of car you're in, you'll find it in Asphalt 8. The game features over 50 tracks, multiplayer action, limited time special events, and more. There's plenty of content for a single player if multiplayer isn't your thing, and given that the game is free to start with, there's a lot to do. Free with the app - Learn more about what you play? Do you have a favorite game for Apple TV? What is it and why is apple TV the perfect way to play it? Let us know in the comments below! August 2019: Updated with the best games in 2019. 2019.

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