Children with ASD engage in more severe and frequent challenging behavior than typically developing children (Matson, Wilkins, & Macken, 2009), and without appropriate intervention, these behaviors tend to persist across an individual’s lifespan (Murphy et al., 2005). Communication delays undoubtedly play a role in difficulties with social interaction but, regardless of a child’s communication level, social skills also often need to be targeted for instruction.


5. How accessibility consultants are building a more inclusive video game industry behind the scenes. “Pālaka” focuses on the relationship between a guardian and a child. Players control the guardian and guide a lost child from purgatory to the afterlife. Designing a game for people with autism in a 10-minute time constraint is a tall order for the student-led team. They’re forced to think about how someone on the spectrum might react to a scenario presented in the game, while also making the game playable for the public. Kircoff and Rebecca Dion, a board-certified behavior analyst, offered guidance in that area, drawing from nearly 20 years of combined experience working with children on the spectrum. AD. AD.