PlayStation®

NTSC | U/C

str.at.ə.s. 1–Match-A-Batch!™

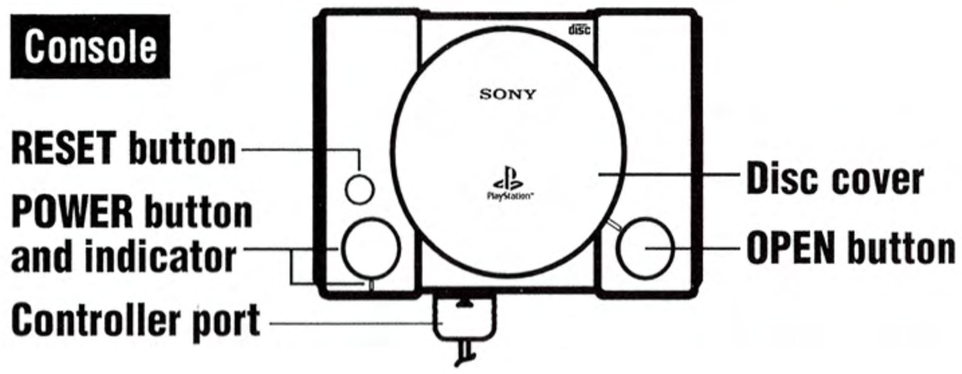
Lightspan Adventures

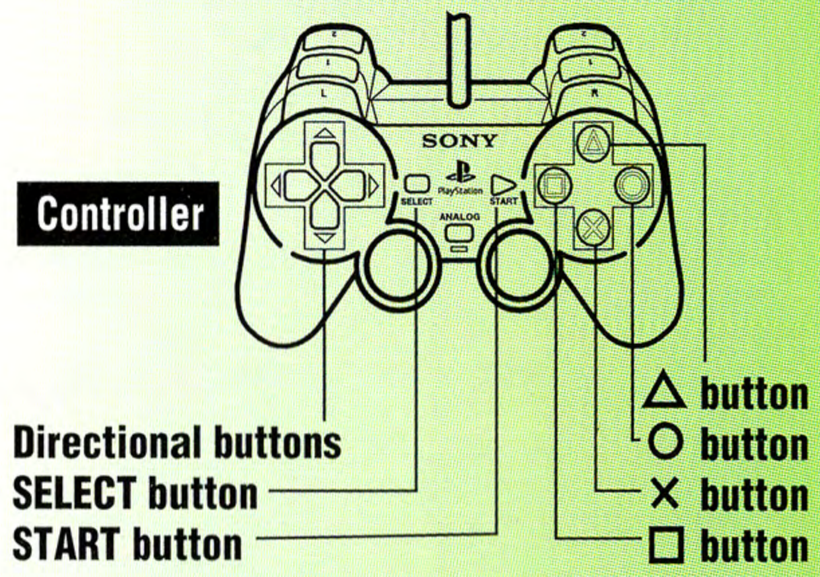
Four students—Max, Sara, Jessica, and Tony—are working on a special communications project involving str.at.ə.s., a futuristic application that can access any time or place in the past, present, or future. One afternoon, str.at.ə.s. malfunctions, and each character is transported back in time. Your child helps the characters return to the present as he or she develops reading comprehension and vocabulary skills and finds out about interesting people and events in history.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Develop reading comprehension skills
- Build vocabulary skills
- Learn about nineteenth- and early twentieth-century people and events
- Learn and use reading strategies to answer questions
- Match words to pictures

Getting Started





Set up your PlayStation® game console according to the instructions in its Instruction Manual. Make sure the power is off before inserting or removing a disc. Insert the disc and close the disc door. Insert the game controller(s) and turn on the PlayStation game console. Follow the on-screen instructions to start the adventure.

- Use the **arrows** on the game controller to move the pointer.
- Use the **X button** on the game controller for clicking.
- Click once to skip the theme song and go to the opening screen.
- At the opening screen, click **Intro** and then click **OK** to see an introduction to str.at.a.s.
- Click the **musical note** and then click **OK** to hear the theme song.
- Click the **hand** to exit the adventure.
- Click one of the portraits and then click **OK** to begin the games.

After selecting a portrait, your child sees one of the four students being transported back in time. Your child may watch the video or click once to skip to the Map Screen.

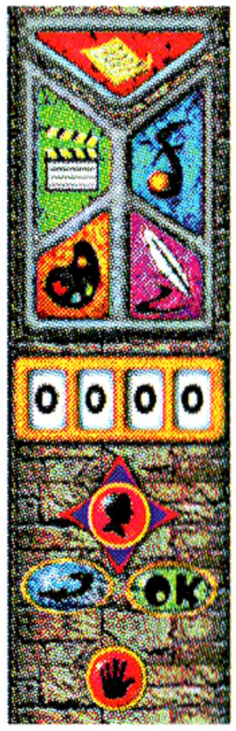
Map Screen

From the **Map Screen,** have your child:

- click one of the **circular pictures** and then click **OK** to go to the related biography
- click the **hand** to return to the opening screen

Media Screen

The Media Screen provides an opportunity to learn more about famous people in history and to explore art, music, and literature from that time period. The pictures at the upper right will be highlighted if available for a specific historical figure. Have your child:



- click the **piece of paper** to read the biography and begin the games
- click the **director's clapboard** to view a video of the historical era or figure or to view a dramatic monologue
- click the **musical note** to hear music
- click the **painter's palette** to view art
- click the **quill pen** to read a piece of literature
- click the **silhouette** with the four directional arrows surrounding it to select another biography
- click the **curved arrow** when lit to return to the previous screen
- click the **hand** to return to the opening screen

Playing the Games

To earn points, your child will read the biographies and play the Strategy, Word, and Clue games. A total of 900 points is required to complete the adventure and help Max, Sara, Jessica, or Tony return to the present day.

After clicking the **piece of paper** on the Media Screen, have your child click the **blue up and down arrows** to scroll through and read the biography.

As your child reads a biography, have a dictionary handy to look up unfamiliar words. This will help your child become comfortable with a dictionary and encourage him or her to solve problems by using additional resources.

Strategy

In the Strategy game, your child will practice reading comprehension skills by answering questions about the biographies. Have your child:

- click **Strategy** at the top of the screen
- read the question at the top of the screen
- click the **speakers** next to the question and the answer choices to hear them read aloud
- click the **loudspeaker** to hear a reading strategy
- click the **piece of paper** to reread the biography and then click again to reveal the answer choices
- click the **red button** next to the correct answer and click **OK**
- click the **picture** in the upper-right corner of the screen to hear the game directions read aloud

Clue

In the Clue game, your child will practice reading comprehension skills by matching picture clues to words or phrases found in the biographies. Have your child:

- click **Clue** at the top of the screen
- click the **blue left and right arrows** at the bottom of the screen to scroll through the picture clues
- click the picture clue that goes with the biography
- click the **blue up and down arrows** next to the biography to scroll through the text; then, click the word or phrase in the biography that describes the picture clue and click **OK**
- click the **picture** in the upper-right corner of the screen to hear the game directions read aloud

Word

In the Word game, your child is introduced to challenging vocabulary words that must be placed into correct sentences. Have your child:

- click **Word** at the top of the screen
- note the word under the four faces on the screen
- click one of the faces to hear all four characters give clues about the meaning of the word
- click the **speakers** next to the word and the sentences to hear them read aloud
- click the **red button** next to the sentence in which the word belongs and then click **OK**
- click the **picture** in the upper-right corner of the screen to hear the game directions read aloud

Extending the Learning Experience
Family Activities

Family Tree

Bring history to life for your child by making a family tree together. Where possible, place actual photographs next to names. As you build the family tree, tell your child about each person's background or share a personal story about each family member.

Pioneer Day

Discuss with your child how pioneer children lived differently than children do today. Then, brainstorm ways in which you could imitate some aspects of pioneer life in your home, such as disconnecting all electric appliances, eating and reading by candlelight, and preparing meals from scratch. Choose some of these ideas and do them for a day or part of a day. Have your child tell you the advantages and disadvantages of life in the days of the pioneers.

Shared Reading

Have your child make a list of all the authors that he or she has learned about in str.at.ə.s. Then, go to your local library and look for books by these authors. Have your child look through the collection of books and choose one that interests him or her. Then, each of you read the book on your own time. Take some time each day to discuss and share what you have read.

Daily Word

With your child, select a list of new vocabulary words from str.at.ə.s. that would be fun for the entire family to learn. Choose a day or week and write the new words on a calendar that can be placed in your kitchen or living room. Challenge family members to use the new vocabulary word correctly as many times as possible during the day or week that the word appears on the calendar. You may plan a special treat for the person who uses the word most or in the best sentence.

WARNING: READ BEFORE USING THE PLAYSTATION® GAME CONSOLE.

A very small percentage of individuals may experience epileptic seizures when exposed to certain light patterns or flashing lights. Exposure to certain patterns or backgrounds on a television screen or while playing video games, including games played on the PlayStation game console, may induce an epileptic seizure in these individuals. Certain conditions may induce previously undetected epileptic symptoms even in persons who have no history of prior seizures or epilepsy. If you, or anyone in your family, has an epileptic condition, consult your physician prior to playing. If you experience any of the following symptoms while playing a video game—dizziness, altered vision, eye or muscle twitches, loss of awareness, disorientation, any involuntary movement, or convulsions—IMMEDIATELY discontinue use and consult your physician before resuming play.

WARNING TO OWNERS OF PROJECTION TELEVISIONS:

Do not connect your PlayStation game console to a projection TV without first consulting the user manual for your projection TV, unless it is of the LCD type. Otherwise, it may permanently damage your TV screen.

USE OF UNOFFICIAL PRODUCTS:

The use of unofficial products and peripherals may damage your PlayStation game console and invalidate your console warranty.

HANDLING THE PLAYSTATION DISC:

- This compact disc is intended for use only with the PlayStation game console.
- Do not bend it, crush it, or submerge it in liquids.
- Do not leave it in direct sunlight or near a radiator or other source of heat.
- Be sure to take an occasional rest break during extended play.
- Keep this compact disc clean. Always hold the disc by the edges and keep it in its protective case when not in use. Clean the disc with a lint-free, soft, dry cloth, wiping in straight lines from center to outer edge. Never use solvents or abrasive cleaners.

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CD #907011