

Virtual Pets

Online with Wi Fi Enabled GoPets

Konami is set to release GoPets, a new virtual pet simulator that will allow gamers to create their own online pets. Competitor Nintendogs features a local wireless 'Bark' mode that let 2 DS units in proximity connect together. GoPets takes the idea a stage further...



GoPets, claimed as 'the newest and cutest thing that's ever hit the Internet', features cats and dogs which can be taken online to meet, mix, and mingle with other virtual pets from all around the world. Pet owners can communicate with each other either with text or through a series of picture based icons – known as the IKU messaging system (and effectively bypassing any language barriers). An online journal keeps track of all the friends your pet makes as it travels the virtual world.

The full version is scheduled to become available in the autumn, although a visit to the GoPets website reveals an active social networking site along similar lines to other virtual worlds like 'Habbo Hotel' or 'Second Life'.

It seems GoPets is already something of a global community comprising real people and their virtual pets. Each GoPet is a unique 3D companion that makes its home on its owner's desktop. GoPets are not restricted to a single computer, however - if they feel like wandering, they can leave home and visit the desktops of other GoPets users. In their travels, GoPets visit their owners' friends and families, as well as introducing their owners to other GoPets members who share similar interests. These traveling GoPets are messengers and ambassadors – they form the dynamic network of connections that comprises the GoPets social network

Like other virtual world sites, there is a form of currency in circulation. In this case Gold Shells – 'the coolest items can only be purchased using Gold Shells', Pink Shells - awarded when you perform creative activities, and Green Shells - automatically awarded whenever you are active in GoPets.