



Welcome to Batuu

Before Reading Poll

It's been said that Disney parks are "the happiest" and "most magical" places on Earth. Now, the Disney parks in California and Florida have added an attraction from "a galaxy far, far away"—Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge. What do you think?

Disney parks are "the happiest" and "most magical" places in the galaxy.

Agree

Disagree

Explain why you voted the way you did.

Article

ORLANDO, Florida (Achieve3000, September 26, 2019). Disney parks may be "the happiest" and "most magical" places on Earth. But they have some lands that are out of this world—in a galaxy far, far away!

In 2019, Star Wars fans' dreams came true when Disney opened Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge. It's a themed area at Disneyland in California and Disney's Hollywood Studios in Florida. For five years, 4,000 people sweated the small stuff to create these twin attractions—the biggest single-theme addition in Disney history.

And not even the tiniest thing was overlooked. After all, Star Wars lovers are Jedi masters when it comes to the details! That's partly why the setting isn't from any of the movies. Star Wars fans know they aren't part of those stories. Instead, the setting is a planet called Batuu—a hot spot for traders, smugglers, and space explorers. A whole new story unfolds under its three suns. And you've gotta choose your alliances.

But Batuu wasn't planned with just Star Wars fans in mind. By creating a new planet, Disney put longtime fans *and* newbies on the same page. Everyone can be part of the story—even if they don't speak Wookiee!

To bring Batuu to life, Disney had to build a new world from the ground up—the land, the rocks, and the trees. Designers used their best tricks to create a 14-acre (5.67-hectare) landscape with a visible history, weathered by age. You know, like any other real place! They based it on real places, too. Take the forest where the Resistance hides out. It was inspired by Petrified Forest National Park in Arizona.

With the scene set, Disney cranked it up another notch. Once you're in Batuu, you're *in* Batuu. The food, the merchandise, the workers—it's all part of the story. So guests feel like they're really exploring an alien planet. That means no Mickey ears or logos on the merch. In fact, the markets only have stuff Batuu merchants would be selling, like lightsabers and Jedi robes.

And you never know who you might meet.

A visit to Batuu is like being dropped into a live-action role-play game. Everyone has different backgrounds, goals, and loyalties. It took three years to design the costumes for the cast members—the people working the rides, stores, and restaurants. And, in a Disney first, they are each tasked with putting together their own look and developing their own back stories. They aren't Earthlings working a cool gig. They're Batuu through and through. In fact, if asked, they've never even *heard* of Earth!

The interaction is a big part of the fun. Visitors may be questioned by a stormtrooper. Or a Resistance spy might ask them to deliver a message. They can also work as a double agent!

And of course there are the rides, including the Millennium Falcon, a full-size model of the famous Star Wars spaceship, aka "the fastest hunk of junk in the galaxy."

For visitors who want more interplanetary playtime, Disney created the Galactic Starcruiser in Florida. That's a two-night, choose-your-own-adventure cruise through outer space. It even offers lightsaber training.

You think you're ready for some far-away galaxy fun? You know what they say: May the force be with you!

Video credit: Courtesy Disney, with music by Valeriano Chiaravalle/proudmusiclibrary.com



Photo Credit: Disney Parks
A full-size model of the famous Millennium Falcon starship is just one of the attractions at Disney's Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge.

Dictionary

alien (*adjective*) from somewhere other than the planet Earth

alliance (*noun*) a union between people, groups, countries, etc.: a relationship in which people agree to work together

interact (*verb*) to talk or do things with other people

landscape (*noun*) an area of land that has a particular quality or appearance

merchandise (*noun*) goods that are bought and sold

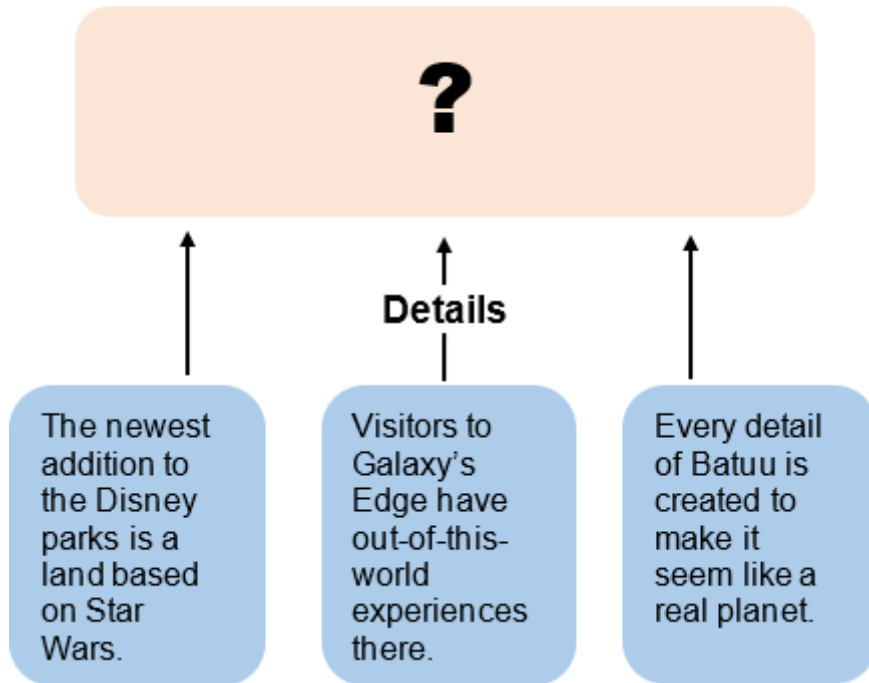
smuggle (*verb*) to move (someone or something) from one country into another illegally and secretly

Activity

PART 1

Question 1

Main Idea of the Article



Based on the Article, which best replaces the question mark in the box above?

There is a large rectangle with a question mark in it. Above the rectangle, it says "Main Idea of the Article." Under the rectangle, there are three smaller boxes with arrows pointing up to the rectangle. Each small box includes a detail from the Article. The first box on the left says "The newest addition to Disney parks is a land based on Star Wars." The box in the middle says "Visitors to Galaxy's Edge have out-of-this-world experiences there." The box on the right says "Every details of Batuu is created to make it seem like a real planet."

- A In 2019, Disney opened Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge, a new land where the design, workers, food, and goods make visitors feel like they're exploring the alien planet of Batuu.
- B One of the rides in Galaxy's Edge is a Star Wars spaceship that is a full-size model of The Millennium Falcon, which is known as "the fastest hunk of junk in the galaxy."
- C Disney based the design of Galaxy's Edge on real places like Petrified Forest National Park in Arizona to make it look weathered by age.
- D The Galactic Starcruiser is a two-night, choose-your-own-adventure cruise through outer space that even offers lightsaber training.

Question 2

Which of these is an opinion?

- Ⓐ It took five years to get Galaxy's Edge ready to open for visitors in California and Florida.
- Ⓑ The workers in Galaxy's Edge get to choose how they will look while doing their jobs.
- Ⓒ For children, the Millennium Falcon ride is the best part of going to Galaxy's Edge.
- Ⓓ Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge is the biggest single-theme addition in Disney history.

Question 3

The Article states:

In fact, the markets only have stuff Batuu merchants would be selling, like lightsabers and Jedi robes. And you never know who you might meet. A visit to Batuu is like being dropped into a live-action role-play game. Everyone has different backgrounds, goals, and loyalties. It took three years to design the costumes for the cast members—the people working the rides, stores, and restaurants. And, in a Disney first, they are each tasked with putting together their own look and developing their own back stories.

The author's purpose for writing this passage was to _____.

- Ⓐ describe that it can be hard to understand the story that is being played out on Batuu
- Ⓑ explain that the story played out in Galaxy's Edge is as important as the land itself
- Ⓒ inform that there are only a few kinds of goods for visitors to buy in the markets of Batuu
- Ⓓ show that many visitors to Galaxy's Edge are surprised to see characters they know there

Question 4

Which is the closest **synonym** for the word *merchandise*?

- Ⓐ entertainment
- Ⓑ product
- Ⓒ system
- Ⓓ ceremony

Question 5

The reader can tell from the Article that _____.

- Ⓐ the number of visitors to the choose-your-own adventure cruise Galactic Starcruiser is greater than the attendance in Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge
- Ⓑ Disney is moving away from having themed rides so it can offer more role-play experiences at all of its parks in California and Florida
- Ⓒ the next Star Wars movie will include traders, smugglers, and explorers from the planet of Batuu in its story
- Ⓓ Disney believes that the popularity of Star Wars will draw enough visitors to Galaxy's Edge in California and Florida to make the time and effort in developing the lands worthwhile

Question 6

This Article would help a student write an essay on _____.

- Ⓐ how people of different ages feel about Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge
- Ⓑ how the rides in Disney's parks have changed since they opened
- Ⓒ how weathering similar to that seen in Petrified Forest National Park happens
- Ⓓ how Disney goes to great lengths to give its visitors an experience like no other

Question 7

The Article states:

To bring Batuu to life, Disney had to build a new world from the ground up—the land, the rocks, and the trees. Designers used their best tricks to create a 14-acre (5.67-hectare) landscape with a *visible* history, weathered by age. You know, like any other real place! They based it on real places, too. Take the forest where the Resistance hides out. It was inspired by Petrified Forest National Park in Arizona.

Which is the closest **antonym** for the word *visible*?

- Ⓐ forgotten
- Ⓑ ugly
- Ⓒ hidden
- Ⓓ impossible

Question 8

Which passage from the Article best supports the idea that acting is part of the workers' jobs in Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge?

- Ⓐ Instead, the setting is a planet called Batuu—a hot spot for traders, smugglers, and space explorers. A whole new story unfolds under its three suns. And you've gotta choose your alliances. But Batuu wasn't planned with just Star Wars fans in mind. By creating a new planet, Disney put longtime fans *and* newbies on the same page. Everyone can be part of the story—even if they don't speak Wookiee!
- Ⓑ And, in a Disney first, they are each tasked with putting together their own look and developing their own back stories. They aren't earthlings working a cool gig. They're Batuu through and through. In fact, if asked, they've never even *heard* of Earth! The interaction is a big part of the fun. Visitors may be questioned by a stormtrooper. Or a Resistance spy might ask them to deliver a message.
- Ⓒ In 2019, Star Wars fans' dreams came true when Disney opened Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge. It's a themed area at Disneyland in California and Disney's Hollywood Studios in Florida. For five years, 4,000 people sweated the small stuff to create these twin attractions—the biggest single-theme addition in Disney history. And not even the tiniest thing was overlooked. After all, Star Wars lovers are Jedi masters when it comes to the details!
- Ⓓ To bring Batuu to life, Disney had to build a new world from the ground up—the land, the rocks, and the trees. Designers used their best tricks to create a 14-acre (5.67-hectare) landscape with a visible history, weathered by age. You know, like any other real place! They based it on real places, too. Take the forest where the Resistance hides out. It was inspired by Petrified Forest National Park in Arizona.

After Reading Poll

Now that you have read the article, indicate whether you agree or disagree with this statement.

Disney parks are "the happiest" and "most magical" places in the galaxy.

Agree

Disagree

Explain why you voted the way you did. Then read and respond to what others have to say.

Sorry, comments are not available at this time. Please try again later.

Thought Question

Imagine that you are telling a friend about Disney's new Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge lands in California and Florida. What would you say? Include descriptive words and phrases from the Article in your answer.

Type your answer in the box below.

Poll Results

OPINION STATEMENT: **Disney parks are "the happiest" and "most magical" places in the galaxy.**

BEFORE READING	AFTER READING
<p>HOW YOU VOTED</p> <p>Agree</p> <p>Disagree</p>	<p>Agree</p> <p>Disagree</p>

WORLDWIDE RESULTS					
Agree	<input type="text"/>	66%	Agree	<input type="text"/>	70%
Disagree	<input type="text"/>	34%	Disagree	<input type="text"/>	30%

14% changed their opinion after reading the article.

Math

PART 1

Suppose a group of eight people go to Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge. They pay \$116.83 per ticket. How much do they pay in all?

- Ⓐ \$816.83
- Ⓑ \$888.44
- Ⓒ \$1,051.47
- Ⓓ \$934.64

Stretch Article

ORLANDO, Florida (Achieve3000, September 26, 2019). Disney parks may be "the happiest" and "most magical" places on Earth. But they have some lands that are out of this world—in a galaxy far, far away! And unlike other parks where cast members are on the same team, at Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge, you've gotta choose your alliances.

In 2019, Star Wars fans' dreams came true with land openings at Disneyland in California and Disney's Hollywood Studios in Florida. This was after 4,000 people sweated the small stuff for five years to create these twin attractions. It was the biggest single-theme addition in Disney history. And not even the tiniest feature was overlooked. After all, Star Wars lovers are Jedi masters when it comes to the details! That's partly why the setting isn't from any of the movies, because fans know they aren't part of those stories. But on the planet of Batuu—a hot spot for traders, smugglers, and intergalactic explorers—a whole new story unfolds under its three suns.



Photo Credit: Disney Parks
A full-size model of the famous Millennium Falcon starship is just one of the attractions at Disney's Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge.

Batuu wasn't planned with just Star Wars fans in mind, though. By creating a new planet, Disney put longtime fans *and* newbies on the same page. Everyone can be part of the story—even if they don't speak Wookiee!

To bring Batuu to life, Disney had to build a new world from the ground up. The land, the rocks, the trees—designers used their best tricks to create a 14-acre (5.67-hectare) landscape with a visible history, weathered by age. You know, like any other real place! They based it on real places, too. For instance, the forest where the Resistance hides out was inspired by Petrified Forest National Park in Arizona. Crews also went to Morocco and Turkey and took thousands of pictures for inspiration. Buildings got the same detailed dedication. Some were built to look like leftovers from ancient cultures, while others stand new and stark against the antique structures. This is meant to mark the emergence of the First Order and the Resistance.

With the scene set, Disney cranked it up another notch. Once you're in Batuu, you're *in* Batuu. The food, the merchandise, the workers—it's all part of the story. So guests feel like they're really exploring an alien planet. That means no Mickey ears or logos on the merch. In fact, the markets only have stuff Batuu merchants would be hawking, like droid parts, lightsabers, and Jedi robes.

And you never know who you might meet.

A visit to Batuu is like being dropped into a live-action role-play game where everyone has unique backgrounds, motivations, and allegiances. It took three years to design the costumes for the cast members—the people working the rides, stores, and restaurants. And, in a Disney first, they are each tasked with assembling their own look and developing their own back stories as well. They aren't Earthlings working a cool gig. They're Batuu through and through. In fact, if asked, they've never even *heard* of Earth!

The interaction is a big part of the fun. Visitors may be questioned by a stormtrooper. Or a Resistance spy might ask them to deliver a message. They can also sign up for a job to help a cause or work as a double agent!

And of course there are the rides, including the Millennium Falcon, a full-size model of the famous Star Wars spaceship, aka "the fastest hunk of junk in the galaxy." And there's Star Wars: Rise of the Resistance, which has four types of ride technologies and uses 5 million lines of code!

For visitors who want more interplanetary playtime, Disney created the Galactic Starcruiser in Florida. That's a two-night, choose-your-own-adventure cruise through outer space,

You think you're ready for some stellar interstellar fun? You know what they say: May the force be with you!

Video credit: Courtesy Disney, with music by Valeriano Chiaravalle/proudmusiclibrary.com

Dictionary

alliance (*noun*) a union between people, groups, countries, etc.: a relationship in which people agree to work together

landscape (*noun*) an area of land that has a particular quality or appearance

merchandise (*noun*) goods that are bought and sold

stark (*adjective*) having a very plain and often cold or empty appearance

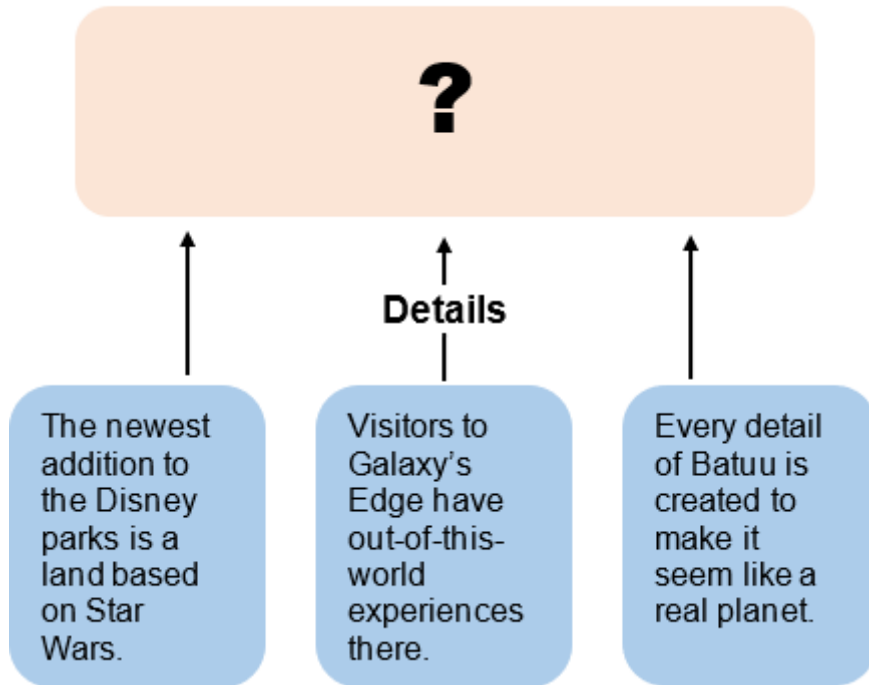
stellar (*adjective*) very good: excellent

Stretch Activity

PART 1

Question 1

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- (A) The Galactic Starcruiser is a two-night, choose-your-own-adventure cruise through outer space that includes lightsaber training.
- (B) Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge has a full-size replica of The Millennium Falcon and a ride called Star Wars: Rise of the Resistance that uses four types of ride technologies.
- (C) The forest where the Resistance hides out in Batuu was inspired by Petrified Forest National Park in Arizona.
- (D) In 2019, Disney opened Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge, where the appearance, workers, food, and products are designed to make visitors feel like they're exploring the alien planet of Batuu.

Question 2

Which of these is a statement of opinion?

- (A) Visitors can choose which team of cast members they will have alliances with while at Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge.
- (B) To account for the First Order and the Resistance, Batuu was created to include both modern and antique structures.
- (C) Disney included rides at Galaxy's Edge because rides are the most entertaining part of going to a theme park.
- (D) Disney has traditionally been in control of how the workers on rides, in stores, and in restaurants look in each land.

Question 3

The Article states:

That's partly why the setting isn't from any of the movies, because fans know they aren't part of those stories. But on the planet of Batuu—a hot spot for traders, smugglers, and intergalactic explorers—a whole new story unfolds under its three suns. Batuu wasn't planned with just Star Wars fans in mind, though. By creating a new planet, Disney put longtime fans *and* newbies on the same page. Everyone can be part of the story—even if they don't speak Wookiee!

The author's purpose for writing this passage was to _____.

- (A) emphasize that Galaxy's Edge was designed to provide enjoyment for all visitors experiencing life on the planet of Batuu, regardless of their familiarity with Star Wars
- (B) inform that visitors to Galaxy's Edge should not expect to understand the Wookiee language used in everything that is written or spoken in the land
- (C) describe the types of visitors that tend to be drawn to Galaxy's Edge to participate in the fresh story that is played out on Batuu
- (D) explain that every aspect of Galaxy's Edge was developed to be true to Star Wars since some visitors are Jedi masters about the details of the movies

Question 4

Which is the closest **synonym** for the word *alliance*?

- (A) satisfaction
- (B) navigation
- (C) discussion
- (D) association

Question 5

The reader can tell from the Article that _____.

- (A) Disney believes that the popularity of Star Wars will draw enough visitors to Galaxy's Edge in California and Florida to make the time and effort in developing the lands worthwhile
- (B) the next Star Wars movie will include traders, smugglers, and explorers from the planet of Batuu in its plot
- (C) Disney is shifting its focus from themed rides to realistic role-play experiences at all of its parks in California and Florida
- (D) more people have been participating in the choose-your-own adventure cruise Galactic Starcruiser instead of visiting Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge

Question 6

This Article would be **most** useful as a source for a student research project on _____.

- Ⓐ advancements in ride technology since Disney opened its first park until now
- Ⓑ how weathering creates a visual history in places like the Petrified Forest National Park
- Ⓒ features of Star Wars movies that make them appealing across age groups
- Ⓓ strategies Disney uses to provide theme park visitors with unique and realistic experience

Question 7

The Article states:

They based it on real places, too. For instance, the forest where the Resistance hides out was inspired by Petrified Forest National Park in Arizona. Crews also went to Morocco and Turkey and took thousands of pictures for *inspiration*.

Which is the closest **synonym** for the word *inspiration*?

- Ⓐ generosity
- Ⓑ celebration
- Ⓒ motivation
- Ⓓ humor

Question 8

Which passage from the Article best supports the idea that Disney wanted Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge to look like an actual planet to visitors?

- Ⓐ For instance, the forest where the Resistance hides out was inspired by Petrified Forest National Park in Arizona. Crews also went to Morocco and Turkey and took thousands of pictures for inspiration. Buildings got the same detailed dedication. Some were built to look like leftovers from ancient cultures, while others stand new and stark against the antique structures. This is meant to mark the emergence of the First Order and the Resistance.
- Ⓑ A visit to Batuu is like being dropped into a live-action role-play game where everyone has unique backgrounds, motivations, and allegiances. It took three years to design the costumes for the cast members—the people working the rides, stores, and restaurants. And, in a Disney first, they are each tasked with assembling their own look and developing their own back stories as well.
- Ⓒ And of course there are the rides, including the Millennium Falcon, a full-size model of the famous Star Wars spaceship, aka "the fastest hunk of junk in the galaxy." And there's Star Wars: Rise of the Resistance, which has four types of ride technologies and uses 5 million lines of code!
- Ⓓ In 2019, Star Wars fans' dreams came true with land openings at Disneyland in California and Disney's Hollywood Studios in Florida. This was after 4,000 people sweated the small stuff for five years to create these twin attractions. It was the biggest single-theme addition in Disney history. And not even the tiniest feature was overlooked. After all, Star Wars lovers are Jedi masters when it comes to the details!