

The 10 memorable NPCs You'll Encounter On Your Pokemon Journey

Highlights:

- Being Nintendo's flagship RPG franchise, the Pokemon series features a plethora of unique and memorable Non-Player Characters who players love interacting with. **[Link: Pokemon: 10 Forgotten Characters That Need To Come Back]**

- From those to assist you on your quest to be the very best, to those who attempt to hinder you at every availability, NPCs play a pivotal role in your playing experience.

- As such, these NPCs have become cornerstones of the enjoyment players experience when venturing through titles old and new.

10. RIVAL

Whether they are the thorn in your side, or your biggest cheerleader on the battleground, in every mainline Pokemon entry you start off your pilgrimage to defeat the Elite Four not only with the companionship of your starter monster but with a human in tow as well. **[Link: Pokemon: Ranking Every Trainer Rival From All Pokemon Generations]**

While in earlier titles they would actively aggravate you and sometimes even surpass your own ability, in more recent titles they have more so filled the role of companion on your journey to success. Regardless, they are a constant reminder of home, and of the progress you have made up to that point.

9. PROFESSOR

While many of the gamers who make up Pokemon's gargantuan player-base are more than experienced in the franchise's battle and explorative mechanics, your homely Professor always acts as a guiding hand for those who need a refresher or are wholly new to the series. **[Link: Every Professor in the Pokemon Universe Explained]**

They are your first introduction this world, acting as a provider of not only knowledge but your very first Pokemon companion – a effective rite-of-passage for most gamers, many of which will carry it with them for their entire gaming lives.

Without them, many would be (literally) lost as they navigate through the strange world of Pocket Monsters – and for those who don't need their assistance, they're a gentle reminder of those nostalgic moments of discovery.

8. 'Science is Amazing!' NPC

Every title in the mainline Pokemon franchise heralds in a new wave of players to the series, and regularly heralds in a similar stage of technological advancement for the series.

Be it the 3rd generation's move to wireless connectivity, or the 4th's leap into WiFi connectivity, the advancements of Nintendo's hardware were always depicted in advancements in the Pokemon universe.

It seems, as well, that these advancements weren't only noticed by the players but by the NPCs themselves. The fan-renowned 'Science is Amazing' NPC **[Link: Pokemon Fans Show Appreciation FOR 'Science is Amazing' NPC]** is a staple of the franchise, and is always constantly up-to-date with the technological leaps made in the Pokemon world – even if it does involve informing the player of these changes through a slight break of the 4th wall!

7. PARENT(S)

While the journeys the player must go through to reach their goals of becoming the greatest trainer in the region and completing their Pokedex are arduous, you are never too far from a comforting word from your in-game family.

Although your father is almost-always absent in the mainline Pokemon titles, your mother more than makes up for it by being one of the first NPCs you encounter upon the start of a new game. **[Link: Best Parents in the Pokemon Games, Ranked]** Providing guidance, kind words, and a place to rest your weary head (and your Pokemon Team) they are a constant presence in your adventure.

The third generation of Pokemon games decided to do the – thought-to-be impossible – and introduced your father in the Normal-type Gym Leader Norman. Instilling in you not only moral life lessons by insisting you assisted local boy Wally in catching of his first Pokemon, but a challenge – to come back when you were ready to best him in Pokemon battle!

6. NURSE JOY

Unless you were already prepared with knowledge of the way Pokemon battles are played, or were extremely lucky, there is an NPC who you are guaranteed to meet every Pokemon journey you undertake. The kindly, understanding of the Pokemon Centre – Nurse Joy. **[Link: Pokemon: 10 Things you Never Knew About Nurse Joy]**

While being given more character development in the anime adaption of the game series, the in-game version of the character is a constant guardian angel to you and your weary Pokemon team. Providing free medical help to you, in restoring all your team's health and Power Points, she guided many Pokemon trainers on their path to greatness - and never once asked for a single penny in return!

5. FIRST GYM LEADER

While you will battle a multitude of other Pokemon trainers on your travels to become the greatest in the region, there are a select few who provide the challenge of Pokemon Gym Leader. [\[Link: Pokemon Franchise Gym Leader Tier List\]](#)

Their team consisting of single chosen type theme, they can stump even the most experienced players in their tracks – yet no Gym Leader has as much of an impact on the player as their very first. No doubt the player may have trained up their starter Pokemon, and perhaps even captured a few more friends on the way, but the first Gym Leader is a challenge much greater than any trainers the player has come across thus far.

Acting as a boss-like trial for players, as well as a lesson in the disadvantages of a single-type team composition, the Gym Leaders of every region are highlights of each game – but none so much as your very first.

4. ODDLY PHILOSOPHICAL PERSON

It's no surprise that the Pokemon franchise is directed towards children – that much is obvious in everything from its creature design to the entry-level RPG mechanics it throws your way. However, that is not to say that Pokemon games are adverse to including more developed themes and dialogue for the adults of the audience, as well as the keen-eyed youth. [\[Link: Pokemon: Saddest Moments Hidden in the Games' Side Quests So Far\]](#)

Nestled in every Pokemon game is always a handful of NPCs who dictate to the player their spiritual or mindful musings – to the enjoyment of experienced players, and the confounding of those playing for the Nintendo charm and Pikachu cuteness.

Such dialogue is often one of the most memorable moments of a Pokemon trainer's journey, and perhaps even sticks with the player long after the credits roll on their successful adventure. As a young boy in Petalburg City muses as he stands next to a pool of water:

"My face is reflected in the water. It's a shining grin full of hope. Or maybe it's a look of somber silence struggling with fear. What do you see in your face?"

3. EVIL TEAM LEADER

The world of Pokemon is often described as one of beauty, kindness and friendship between humans and their Pokemon companions – however, much like in our world, there are often those who look to this companionship as something to be exploited.

Every mainline Pokemon title introduces an evil Pokemon team to hinder the player and to introduce a clearer narrative to follow, alongside your personal goals of Champion status and PokeDex completion. Yet these evil teams don't work all by themselves, they are instead led by a notorious Pokemon crook who take out their anger at your dismantling of their criminal operation in the form of Pokemon battle against you. [\[Link: Pokemon: Every Mainline Game's Villain, Ranked From Least to Most Evil\]](#)

Eventually either seeing the error of their ways, or escaping capture as they vanish after final defeat, they are the narrative climax of your Pokemon journey and often are defeated just as you are within arm's reach of the Pokemon League.

Evil? Yes.

Cool looking? Mostly.

Memorable? Absolutely!

2. 'That One Weird' NPC

Non-Player Characters are often strategically placed to help or hinder the player in some way along their Pokemon adventure – be that by providing helpful advice on where to head next, or to challenge them to a Pokemon battle.

However, some are placed to provide conversation, and to flesh-out the world in which your ten-year-old adventurer is dashing around in. yet, there are always some NPCs who just seem to rub you're the wrong way. [\[Link: The 10 Weirdest NPCs Ever In The Pokemon Games\]](#)

Be it because of translation error, or lines of dialogue taken out of context, there are always instances of NPCs in Pokemon games saying something to you which will no doubt result in the player saying to themselves 'wait, what?'

But that's what Pokemon is all about – the weird with the wonderful; and I doubt any Pokemon player would have it any other way.

1. THE POKEMON THEMSELVES

Okay, this might be cheating...

But as far as Non-Player Characters go, the Pokemon themselves will always take top spot. Their designs, cries, PokeDex entries and personalities are what make the world of the Pokemon games so fantastic – and generate as much money for Nintendo as they do! [\[Link: The Pokemon Company Experiences Stunning Multibillion-Dollar Increase in Revenue\]](#)

Everyone has their favourite [\[Link: Official Favorite Pokemon Twitter Poll Results Revealed\]](#) – from your friend's first starter, and that surprise evolution you didn't know existed, to the other NPCs themselves having their own pet companions – and everyone knows Pikachu.

So, as far as NPCs go, if you have the game itself named because of you then you're pretty secure in the top spot!