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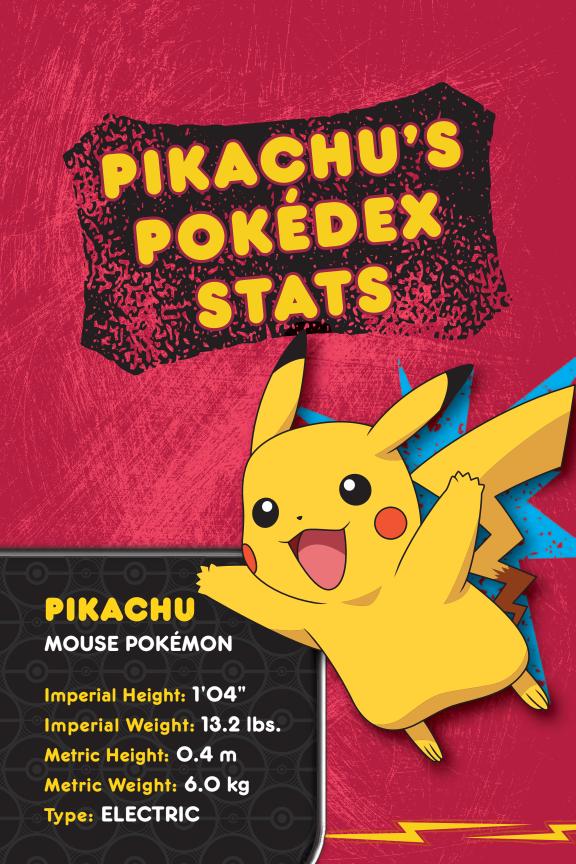
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Pikachu naturally stores up electricity in its body, and it needs to discharge that energy on a regular basis to maintain good health. To take advantage of this, some have suggested creating a Pikachu-fueled power plant.

Forget beauty sleep; the Mouse Pokémon needs a good night's rest for sheer battle strength. Pikachu's red cheeks are filled with electric power that recharges while it rests. So if you spot a sleeping Pikachu in the forest, be sure to keep quiet. You don't want to wake it up—it's important Pikachu gets its shut-eye!

Pikachu often zap first, ask questions later. Their first response to seeing new things and even people can be a Thunderbolt. So don't be shocked if you get shocked when you meet a wild Pikachu!

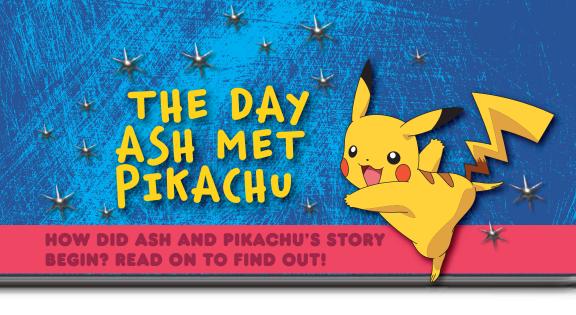
While traveling through Kalos, Ash and his friends stumbled upon the largest Pikachu habitat they'd ever seen! The estate belonged to Pikachu fanatic Frank, a director who dreams of making a movie about a place called Pikachuland.

When Frank met Ash's pal Pikachu, he insisted it play the lead role in the movie, and a star was born!

Here are some of the other Pikachu actors from the movie in their costumes—thus, the name Cosplay Pikachu.







Ash overslept the day he got to pick his first partner Pokémon out at Professor Oak's lab. Since he was the last to arrive, the traditional Kanto first partner Pokémon—Bulbasaur, Squirtle, and Charmander—had all been claimed by other new Trainers.

There was only one Pokémon left, but Professor Oak wasn't sure if it was a good idea to pair a new Trainer with a Pokémon that had been returned to him three times. The Pokémon in question? Pikachu!

Now I know what you're thinking:

Pikachu is one of the coolest

Pokémon ever. It's traveled everywhere with Ash

as his best friend.

And it's all true—Ash and Pikachu are inseparable, they've fought hundreds of battles together, and they have a special bond.



But friendships take time to build. No pair just instantly becomes best friends. Certainly not Pikachu and Ash. In fact, on day one, you could say Pikachu saw Ash as the enemy!

But Ash was determined to win over the picky Pikachu. Now that he was finally ten, Ash wasn't going to let anything stop him from becoming a Pokémon Trainer.

However, Ash soon discovered it wasn't easy training a Pokémon rebel. When he welcomed Pikachu with a big hug, the Mouse Pokémon zapped him. Then it refused to go into its Poké Ball.

As they headed into the woods to begin their journey, Ash pleaded with Pikachu to give him a chance, but it was no use. So Ash let Pikachu roam free, hoping to earn