Hello, and thank you for purchasing Pixel Hunt!

You might have noticed an extra file named "assistant.exe" included with your game. Nothing to worry about, it's actually a crucial part of the game, a special utility that the game couldn't function without.

Here’s what it does:

[Manages the Cursor]
The game features a unique custom cursor with special effects, so the system cursor needs to be hidden. The assistant loads a blank cursor file named "blank.cur" from the game folder, which replaces the system cursor to hide it. It also ensures the cursor reverts to the original system cursor before the game was launched in case the game crashes. This is one of the reasons why this functionality wasn't implemented directly within the game.

[Helps the Game Detect Clicks]
The custom cursor is a special click-through window that allows you to interact directly with your operating system. However, because it's click-through, the game itself can't detect your clicks to provide in-game feedback. This assistant ensures that your mouse clicks are sent to the game so it can react to them.

[Operating System Interactions]
When you right-click or hover your cursor over the system taskbar, this assistant switches back to your regular cursor to maintain normal functionality with the operating system.

When you stop playing, the assistant will turn off by itself, ensuring no extra background processes keep running on your computer.

If you're curious about what it's doing while you play, you can view it in action. Here’s how to do that using Steam:

1. Open your Steam Library.
2. Right-click on "Pixel Hunt" and select "Properties."
3. In the "General" tab, find the "Launch Options" box.
4. Type "--assistant-console" (without quotes) and close the properties window.
5. Start Pixel Hunt, and a console window will open up, showing you real-time logs from the assistant.

WARNING! Do not close the console window manually, close the game instead, and then the assistant will exit after. Closing the console manually will terminate the assistant in the process, leaving you with an invisible system cursor! If this happens, press the Windows key and R together, type "control mouse" (without quotes), then press Ctrl and Tab together to navigate to the "Pointers" tab of the "Mouse Properties" window, use the Up and Down arrow keys to select one of the system cursor schemes, and press Enter to apply it.

It's worth mentioning that neither the assistant nor the game collects or shares any of your information. Both run purely locally, and the only outside interaction is with the game itself. They are there solely to ensure that Pixel Hunt operates smoothly and looks good. Of course, unless you're playing multiplayer mode, game-related data like mouse position for cursor synchronization between players is passed over Steam to other players.

Additionally, you will find a file named "wisdoms.json" in the game folder. This file is used by Uncle Curso, an in-game old cursor character who occasionally pops up from the bottom right corner of the screen to say fun or grumpy things. By editing this file and replacing its lines, you can customize what Uncle Curso says as he picks lines randomly from the file.

Happy hunting!