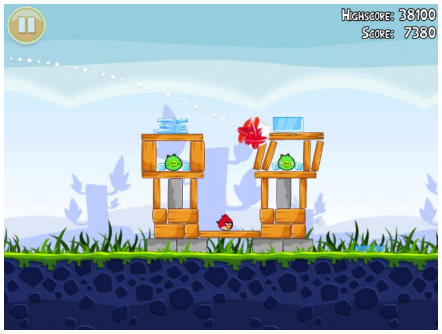
As I sat and waited for Santa's fat ass to squeeze down my chimney with a Kinect, I took a moment to reflect on all the games that weren't CALL OF DUTY: BLACK OPS (yes, there were others). See below for my favorite gaming entries to the year 2010, in no particular order.

ANGRY BIRDS

This game wins the title of "Application to get more screen time on my Droid than Facebook, Twitter, and the auto-tuned red shirt Blizzcon nerd combined." Birds seek vengeance on pigs, and you help by launching them out of a slingshot to bring down their shoddily fortified structures. Drag your finger left, then right, tap occasionally. Then look at the clock and realize that three hours just passed. One of the best free games I've ever played.



RED DEAD REDEMPTION

"Grand Theft Horse," right? Not at all. Rockstar traded in tricked-out Maseratis and white-collar crime sprees for cutthroat cowboys, backroom poker, and westward expansion - and RED DEAD REDEMPTION is leaps and bounds above the label's patented open world environment style of game. From the character-driven story, to the rich developed landscape, RDR takes gamers on an old-west adventure that could only be topped by use of an actual time machine. Critics and fans alike have gushed over this game, largely due to the test of morality required for a solid play through. Instead of the open playground-for-thugs presented in the GTA series, RDR makes you want to be the hero and feel rewarded for the bloodshed which you bring to the land of New Austin. If playing "Cowboys & Indians" isn't your cup of tea, then Cowboys & Zombies it is! That's right, zombies. As part of RDR's downloadable content, UNDEAD NIGHTMARE offers up one of the best survival horror experiences to date, not to mention some of the best drawn/costumed zombies to ever grace a console, and all for a mere $10.