

Parent's Guide to Minecraft Education

Welcome to our parent guide with everything you need to know about Minecraft Education!

This guide is designed to help you understand the benefits of Minecraft Education and how it can enhance your child's educational journey. We will explore the features, curriculum areas, and resources for how you can get started leveraging our learning platform.

Introduction to Game-Based Learning

Before we dive into the specifics of Minecraft Education, it's important to explain the power of game-based learning. Game based learning leverages the motivational aspects of games to enhance the learning experience for students. By integrating gameplay elements such as competition, collaboration, and problem solving, it can promote the student's active participation, critical thinking, and knowledge retention.

Games often provide a safe environment for students to experiment, make mistakes, learn from their failures, and experience a sense of challenge and achievement.

It is important to note that to be the most effective, game-based learning should be aligned with educational objectives and integrated into the curriculum in a meaningful way, which is where you enter: Minecraft Education.

What is Minecraft Education?

You may already be familiar or have heard of Minecraft, the popular game that has captured the hearts and minds of millions of players around the world, although you may be wondering how Minecraft Education differs and what are the benefits of leveraging in a classroom setting.

As an educational tool, Minecraft Education offers a unique and immersive learning experience that can engage and inspire your child's curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking skills.

There are a few key features that ensure Minecraft Education is safe, easy to use, and built for the classroom.

- 1. Classroom Management Features: We have tools built in that allow educators to control in-game activities and customize the learning environment to help them facilitate learning, monitor progress, and ensure a safe and productive classroom experience.
- 2. Lesson Plans and Curriculum Integration: We offer a library of lesson plans, activities, and learning resources specifically designed for achieving learning outcomes. We provide tools built into our product that help assess student learning and progress.
- 3. **Safety and Moderation:** We have features built for the classroom to ensure student safety such as student privacy settings, communication filters, and more to ensure it is a safe and secure environment for students to learn and collaborate.
- 4. Collaboration and Multiplayer Features: We encourage collaboration and teamwork among students. Our product offers enhanced multiplayer features, allowing students to work together on projects, problem-solving tasks, or creative challenges. This functionality also enables teachers to join and guide students through their lesson.

Examples of learning in MCEDU

Minecraft Education is a powerful teaching and learning tool that supports deep and meaningful student-led learning. See below for examples of how MCEDU can drive learning outcomes in subjects including Math, English Language Arts, Computer Science, as well as challenging topics to teach such as CyberSafety.

1. Core Curriculum

- We offer standard aligned lesson plans, worlds, and educational resources for each core school subject.
- Explore our math or science subject kit <u>HERE</u> to find learning experiences that teach a range of concepts such as properties of matter, or fractions.

2. Computer Science

- Learn the basics of coding through one of our over 200 hours of computer science pre-built worlds and lesson plans.
- We support learners through a progression K-12 curriculum no matter where they are on their CS journey.
- Explore lessons such as our Hour of Code <u>HERE</u>





3. Cybersafety

- Experience **Privacy Prodigy**, a learning experience to help students learn crucial digital literacy skills such as how to identify their personal data, with whom they can share their data, and explore ways to safeguard their sensitive personal data.
- Lesson plan and world available <u>HERE</u>



For more learning content and educational resources, explore our <u>lesson page</u> on our website, or navigate to the lesson library in-game.

How to Get Started

- You don't need to be an expert Minecraft player to begin learning with Minecraft Education. Your child may already have access to Minecraft Education through their school account and be learning in the classroom with MCEDU.
 - o If you are interested in exploring how to get access, check out our <u>Get Started</u> page and follow the steps to download Minecraft Education
- If you are looking for opportunities for home school students or after school clubs –
 explore how to get licensed and leverage in your specific scenario here

Case Studies

To understand real world situations of how MCEDU is leveraged to inspire and empower students and educators world-wide see below:

- Microsoft Customer Story-Minecraft empowers students to solve climate issues, builds skills for green careers
- Microsoft Customer Story-Minecraft supports equitable STEM education for Florida schools
- Microsoft Customer Story-Wales amplifies effectiveness of Minecraft: Education Edition through countrywide educator training program

For additional customer stories, see here

For new content updates, educational resources, and opportunities to stay connected, <u>sign up</u> for our monthly Minecraft Education newsletter