

What Parents & Guardians should know about Fortnite



WHAT IS FORTNITE?

Fortnite is an online game, where users test their survivor skills within an “open-world community”. In doing so, users battle others in real-time either by playing other users online, or single player mode. Due to the potential content such as inappropriate language this game is recommended for ages 13+

1

Why is Fortnite Dangerous

Fortnite requires problem-solving skills, attention to detail and at times allows users who would normally not communicate in person with others, communicate and collaborate as a team. While this sounds great, Fortnite does expose users to minimal violence, such as battling with others using weapons. Hyperfixating on details, resulting in aggression when interrupted or when distracted in real life. Being exposed to inappropriate language, which may influence the user to use this language within the game or in their homes.

2

Stranger Danger!

Fortnite offers voice chat, allowing all players of multiple ages to communicate with one another while “battling” it out.

Due to this feature, this exposes children who would typically not be exposed to such language or vile behavior become exposed. Showing players that this maybe acceptable behavior while playing the game, and eventually will carry over into their homes.

This behavior could include violence, language, or even talking down about themselves amongst others.

3

In-app purchases & Scams

“V-Bucks” a form of payment within the Fortnite community, allows players to purchase cosmetics for their characters, which allows them to “express themselves in a virtual world”. Unfortunately these “V-bucks” are not fake, and takes real finding out of the parent or guardian’s pocket.

Unfortunately, many players have found ways to go around parental controls and access the “V-Bucks”, which still costs money regardless if safe guards are put into place or not.

Many times, players do not want to earn their cosmetics for their characters, which is one way players can get the “skins” or “accessories” for free. Therefore, players take it upon themselves to purchase these without their parent or guardians consent

4

Online Community

Many times, communities such as Fortnite will gather and play on platforms such as “Discord” or “Reddit” These platforms are not moderated, and are often used by individuals looking for vulnerable children or teens.

Many adults looking for vulnerable players, will often approach others and begin to groom them while playing Fortnite. This could begin by simply buying “skins” or allowing them to win a few battles.

Is your child being groomed?

By accessing the parental controls in Fortnite and putting in a passcode, you maybe able to prevent this. Also, allowing so much screen time per day will prevent this from occurring as well.

BEING A HELICOPTER PARENT IS OKAY!!!!