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The world in a school
learning together

Because of the popularity of video games, completely eliminating them from your child's life might be difficult. However, you can decrease the negative impact that they have on your child by knowing the rating of the video games your child plays.

Store-bought video games are evaluated by the **Electronic Software Ratings Board (ESRB)** and rated for their appropriateness for children and teens. The ratings are featured prominently on the game packaging. The following are the rating symbols currently in use, according to the ESRB Web site.

Early Childhood (EC)	Content should be suitable for children 3 years and older and contain no objectionable material.
Everyone (E)	Content suitable for persons ages 6 and older . The game may contain minimal violence and some "comic mischief."
Teen (T)	Content suitable for persons ages 13 and older . Content is more violent than (E) rating and contains mild or strong language, and/or suggestive themes.
Mature (M)	Content suitable for persons ages 17 and older . Content definitely has more mature sexual themes, intense violence and stronger language.
Adults Only (AO)	Content suitable only for adults i.e. 18 years and older and may contain graphic sex and/or violence. Adult Only products are not intended for persons under the age of 18 .



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Studies of children exposed to violent media have shown that they may become numb to violence, imitate the violence, and show more aggressive behaviour. Younger children and those with emotional, behavioural or learning problems may be more influenced by violent images.

As parents/carers it is important to note that video games have age ratings for a reason: Many contain extremely graphic, cinematic scenes of beatings, murder, dismemberment, blood, gore, and worse.

The following is a **list of games** that some children are playing however they're definitely **not for children in primary school**.

<p>Grand Theft Auto (GTA) 18+</p> 	<p>Although many children may want to play GTA, the game is designed for an adult audience as it is full of violence and is very graphic.</p>
<p>Call of Duty (COD) 18+</p> 	<p>This is a gritty, extremely violent military game that has frequent profanity, disturbing graphic scenes and adult content.</p>
<p>Halo Wars – 1,2 and 3 (13+)</p> 	<p>A few video cut scenes show close up fighting with human bodies impaled and some blood which is why the game is rated "Teen."</p> <p>The game can be played online where colorful language is the norm.</p>
<p>Halo 4 18 +</p> 	<p>This game is a sci-fi-themed first-person shooter in which players take on the role of an enhanced super-soldier to kill hundreds of alien enemies.</p> <p>Parents should be aware, too, that this game supports open online communication with strangers.</p>