

MINECRAFT AS AN EDUCATIONAL TOOL

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One of the activities of students nowadays is playing online games. This is for sure that one of the games they are into is 'Minecraft'. And just a little trivia, this game was created by Markus Perrson in just 6 days in the year 2009, and it was originally called 'Cave Game' at that time. But still, the question is how teachers and students can benefit from this game?

Basically, in this game, players have these LEGO-like blocks they can use for building structures like city buildings, houses, farms, and castles, they can also craft simple items like containers, tools or weapons, and a lot more things under the sun. Just imagine a world of Legos where players can develop lots of ideas, design them, and make them in their creative ways.

Minecraft became so popular among kids that Microsoft acquired the game in 2016 and developed it not just being a game but categorized as a relevant educational tool for students. Microsoft and Minecraft collaborated and created an educational-based platform called 'Minecraft: Education Edition' wherein students can enjoy playing together in a game while learning and acquiring skills. This educational tool was designed for students to work collaboratively inside the game and meet a common goal in such a way that it allows students to solve problems with a small group or as a whole class.

What is very interesting in this game is that it allows players to be creative and it always does not give specific directions in what will be done which is why the possibilities are endless and this idea allows the teachers to create goals for the students to accomplish

allowing them to map projects and activities directly to specific learning outcomes and curriculum standards.

References:

'Minecraft: Education Edition': Five Fast Facts You Need to Know
<https://heavy.com/games/2017/05/minecraft-education-edition-code-builder-learn-to-code-student-engagement-free-trial-price-subjects-age-range/>