

# Childrens' online content worksheet 2018

## Introduction sheet for parents and teachers

### Background

As the UK's communications regulator, we make sure people get the best from their communications services. We have a statutory duty, under the Communications Act 2003, to promote and carry out research in media literacy. Media literacy enables people to have the skills, knowledge and understanding to make full use of the opportunities presented by both traditional and new communications services.

As part of our work, we conduct research into how children aged 3-15 use and think about media, including the internet. We also talk to their parents and carers about the different ways they keep their children safe when they use media. Our research findings are published in our annual report '**Children and parents: media use and attitudes**'. The most recent can be read at <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/research-and-data/media-literacy-research/childrens>.

### What is the worksheet about?

In collaboration with Childnet<sup>1</sup>, a charity working with others to help make the internet a great and safe place for children, we have created a worksheet for **children aged 8-11** to download. The worksheet focuses on *when and how children go online, what they see when they do, as well as gaming online*. This supports our work with Safer Internet Day 2019<sup>2</sup>, and its theme of '*Together for a better internet*'.

Children are surrounded by lots of different images every day. To gauge their comprehension of what they see, we asked them how and when they go online, what they feel they can or cannot trust, and what they would do if they saw something worrying or nasty online. The worksheet shows children the results from our research and encourages them to consider their own online use. These can be used in school or at home and can help to prompt important discussions about being safe online.

### Useful resources

The following websites provide useful advice on helping children stay safe online:

**Childnet:** [www.childnet.com/](http://www.childnet.com/)

**Safer Internet Day:**  
[www.saferinternet.org.uk/](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/)

**CEOP:** [www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/](http://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/)

**Media Smart:** <http://mediasmart.uk.com/>

**Get Safe Online:** [www.getsafeonline.org/](http://www.getsafeonline.org/)

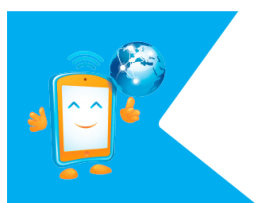
**NSPCC Net Aware:** [www.net-aware.org.uk/](http://www.net-aware.org.uk/)

**Internet Matters:**  
[www.internetmatters.org/](http://www.internetmatters.org/)

**Thinkuknow:** [www.thinkuknow.co.uk/](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/)

**Parentzone:** <https://parentzone.org.uk/>

**NSPCC Library:**  
<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/services/library-catalogue>



We are supporting  
**Safer Internet Day**

5 Feb 2019

[www.saferinternetday.org.uk](http://www.saferinternetday.org.uk)  
#SaferInternetDay2019

**Safer Internet Day 2019** takes place on Tuesday 5th February, with the theme 'Together for a better internet'.

Coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre, the celebration sees hundreds of organisations get involved to help promote the safe, responsible, and positive use of digital technology for children and young people.

1 Childnet: <http://www.childnet.com/>

2 Safer Internet Day 2019: <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2019>

# What do you see when you go online?

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

We are surrounded by images every day on our mobile phones, tablets, computers and TVs. Pictures and video are a great way to inspire others, remember good times and share important moments, but is this all that you see when you go online?

To understand what images and content children in the UK are seeing, we asked them what types of things they look at when they are online.

**How do you and your classmates compare with the children aged 8-11 from our survey?**

## Key to icons



TV



Smart TV



Computer



Laptop



Mobile phone



Tablet



Games console



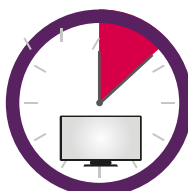
Internet

## Going online

1



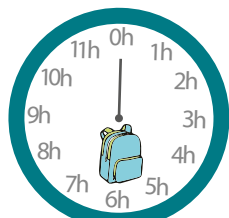
On an average school day 8-11 year olds spend nearly as long online as they do watching TV.



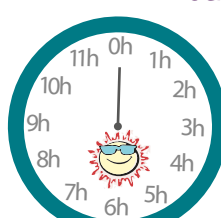
But at the weekend they spend almost an hour more online



How much time do you think you spend online on an average school day?  
(Shade in the clock)



And at the weekend?  
(Shade in the clock)



Discuss the reasons why these might be different.

2

Tablets and laptops are the devices that 8-11 year olds use to go online the most.

66%

59%

41%



21%



15%

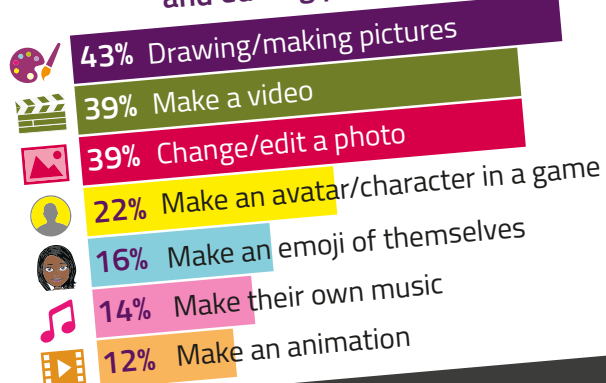


12%

Which devices do you use?

Which is your favourite, and why?

Their favourite online creative activities are: drawing and making pictures, making videos and editing photos.



Have you done any of these things online?  
Draw or write your favourite one here:

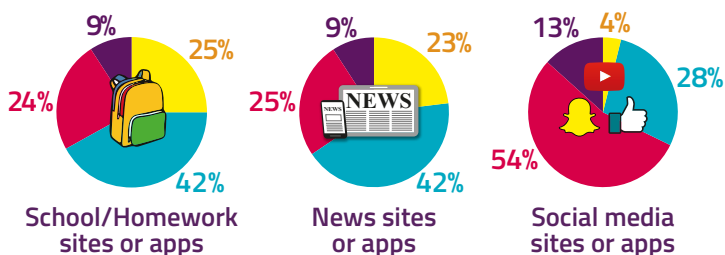
How does doing these things make you feel?  
Pick one or two emoji's ...



## What you see online

Children use a lot of websites to gather information. Of the following types of websites and apps, our 8-11 year olds thought ...

All is true   Most is true   Some is true   Don't know



Many websites contain true information, but knowing how to decide which information is true is a key skill. Discuss which websites you think contain true information.

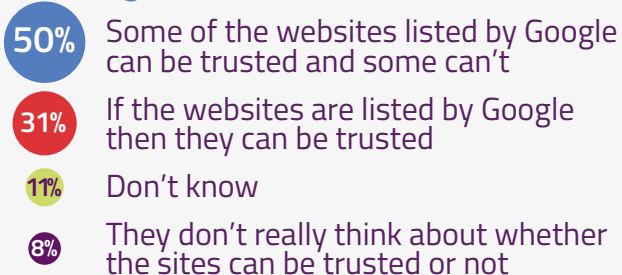
What can you do to check if the information you see is true?

Some of the things you can do both online and offline to check information are:  
1: Check other websites  
2: Check books  
3: Talk to someone

Do you trust everything you see on Google? And why is that?

Half of 8-11 year olds who use search engines thought that some of the websites listed by Google can be trusted,

Google



When you search on Google, how do you decide which link to click?

Why do some websites appear at the top of a Google search? Does this make them more trustworthy?

6

Nearly all of our 8-11 year olds said they would tell a family member if they saw something worrying, nasty, or offensive online.



88% Parent



23% Teacher



19% Friend



3% No-one



2% Police



2% The website themselves

? 1% Don't know if they would tell anyone

It is very important to talk to someone if you see something online that you don't like, or that worries you.

Would you tell someone? Who would that be and why?

7

The majority of our 8-11 year olds said they have ever used the YouTube website or app.

Use  
77%



Don't use  
21%

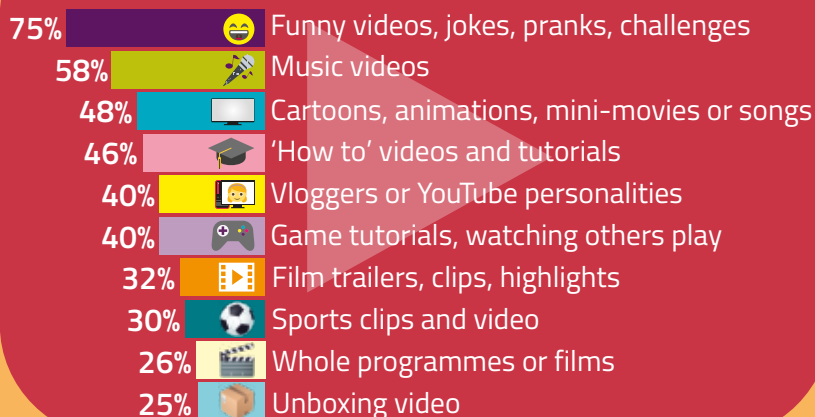
Don't know 2%

Have you ever used or watched YouTube? .....

What do you like about it? .....

8

The most popular things to watch on YouTube were funny videos, jokes, pranks and challenges.



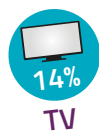
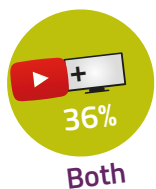
Do you watch any of these? .....

Which are your favourites?

Draw your favourite character or video

9

Half of our 8-11 year olds who watch YouTube said they preferred to watch YouTube than watch TV



Which do you prefer to watch?

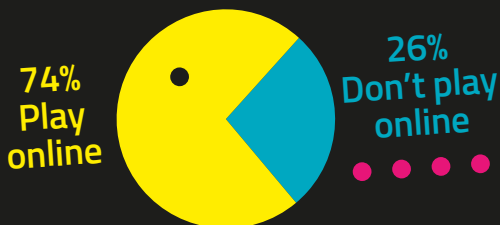
Why is that?

# Gaming online

Playing games online is when you are connected to the internet, and some games allow you to work with or play against others while online.

10

Around three-quarters of our 8-11 year olds said they play games online.



Do you play games online? .....

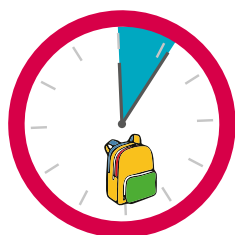
Draw a picture, or write a description, of your favourite game or character.

11

Children aged 8-11 said they spent more time playing games on devices at the weekend, than they do on a school day.

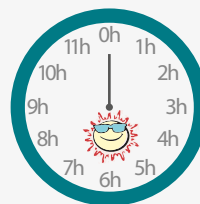


Weekend  
2hours

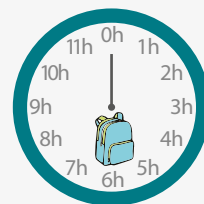


School day  
1h 12m

How much time do you think you spend playing games at the weekend?



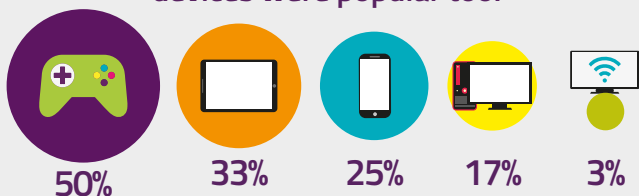
Is this more or less than you would spend on a normal school day?



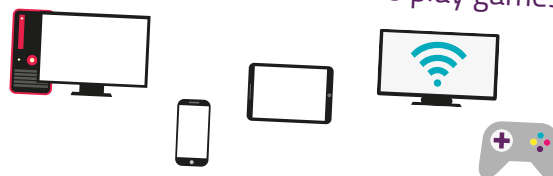
Why is that? .....

12

Half of 8-11 year olds used a games console to play games on, but other devices were popular too.



Circle your favourite devices to play games on.



What is your favourite game to play?

Use these links to find out more about how to be safe when online:

Childnet: [www.childnet.com/young-people](http://www.childnet.com/young-people)

Childline: [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)

MediaSmart: [www.mediasmart.uk.com/young-people](http://www.mediasmart.uk.com/young-people)

ThinkuKnow: [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)



**Safer  
Internet  
Day 2019** | Tuesday  
5 February

Together for a better internet

[www.saferinternetday.org.uk](http://www.saferinternetday.org.uk)



**Safer Internet Day 2019** will take place on Tuesday 5th February, focusing on the theme of *'Together for a better internet'*

Coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre the celebration sees hundreds of schools and organisations join together to raise awareness of online safety issues and run events and activities right across the UK.

**Find out more and get involved!**

[www.saferinternetday.org.uk](http://www.saferinternetday.org.uk)

**#SaferInternetDay2019**

## ABOUT THIS WORKSHEET

Research source: *Ofcom - Children and parents: media use and attitudes report 2018*

These worksheets can be downloaded from [www.ofcom.org.uk/online-worksheets](http://www.ofcom.org.uk/online-worksheets)