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Gameplay, NFT Platforms, and Avatars: The Future of Education

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Raising a highly ethical person in today's world is not an easy task. Life's rhythm has changed, prompting young people to put the book aside. How can we bring books back into modern life? How can we instill a love for reading in the 21st century?

The educational games that focus on reading can not only improve literacy skills but create empathy and kindness too. Every child should read more books to understand the importance of thinking about others. Books make us thoughtful, rational, and compassionate. Through the book heroes, children can feel like a character in a story, which can be very helpful in real life. Moreover, studies show that children who read often have a better capacity to understand emotions in themselves and other people they interact with. This makes them more easily able to relate to others and express themselves with confidence as well.

How can we teach children to empathize with them? How to raise a person with high moral standards - kind, respectful, goal-oriented? Children Story Time is the perfect app to help your child develop critical reading skills and make them more empathetic. In this article, we are going to dive deep into the connection between reading and empathy and review some advanced features coming to the app in 2025.

1. The importance of empathy in children's development

One of the most challenging emotions to learn (but arguably one of the most important) is empathy.

The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines empathy as “the action of understanding, being aware of, being sensitive to, and vicariously experiencing the feelings, thoughts, and experience of another of either the past or present without having the feelings, thoughts, and experience fully communicated in an objectively explicit manner”. When children learn empathy, they are able to begin to create and nourish genuine connections with the people around them. Empathy helps them understand other people's feelings and connect on a deeper level with people of all ages. Empathy is a learned skill, so constant exposure to it is required to help children learn how to

cultivate it. This can be done by modeling parents, caregivers, and educators and reading and learning about empathy in stories and games. Even if some children lack empathy and kindness, books can help them change and grow.

Advantages of learning empathy from early childhood

Children are like sponges, especially in the early years. The jury is still out on when exactly children should be able to show empathy for others around them, but studies show that it can begin to emerge as early as age 2 and is usually well-developed by age 5-7. In the early formative years, children learn from how others treat them. They perceive empathy from their parents, caregivers, teachers, and other loved ones from the time that they are born. As their emotional maturity expands, they can begin to show empathy for others.

It may take a while for children to show empathy consistently and when expected because they are often hardwired to think of themselves first. There is nothing wrong with this; it is a natural progression of children's emotional intelligence. The noticeable shift when children consistently show age-appropriate empathy (most of the time) is commonly seen in the first few years of school (ages 5-7).

During this period, they are exposed to much more in school. Everything they encounter makes an impression on them and helps them form their opinion on all different aspects of the world around them. This is the period of children's exposure to the world around them and early socialization. They are highly receptive and easy to teach at this age, so the early years are the most favorable for successful moral education and social development.

2. How does reading make children more empathetic?

When children read books, they participate in the historical facts, events, and relationships expressed in the images of fascinating characters. All of this captivates the young readers, who put themselves in these characters' place. In their illusions, they feel like the main character of all the actions. Therefore, books offer a unique educational tool that helps young readers open the way to morality and evoke empathy and kindness. When parents or teachers select

age-appropriate books in which the characters express empathy towards each other, it helps children understand and learn to model this behavior.

Here are a few ways that reading helps children foster empathy:

1. Exposure to unique fictional situations

Building strong, confident children who are able to understand situations that might differ from their own is a major building block towards fostering empathy. Fiction enriches a child's mind and imagination by revealing new worlds, images, and behaviors and is a powerful tool for emotional development. It builds moral qualities in children, helps them learn social norms, and is an efficient tool for developing and maintaining positive relationships with others. Reading stories help them develop empathy since they explore specific types of situations that they may not have experienced in their real life.

Children's books run the gamut of all different topics to help them gain new perspectives and better understand the world around them, and there is at least one book for almost every scenario you might encounter. In addition, educators and parents can specifically seek out stories that cover certain topics to prepare children for upcoming events in their life or just to expose them to a diverse range of emotions.

2. Stories and games as a convenient strategy to learn empathy

Talking about empathy with young children is not an easy task. Explaining abstract emotions to children is challenging because they live in a very tangible world. It may be hard for them to conceptualize if they can't see or touch something. Stories bring big emotions and unique situations up in a way that makes it easy for children to understand and encourages healthy conversation as well.

Through the lens of the characters' feelings, children get an invaluable experience that they stay with for life. Good children's stories teach children to be compassionate, accept themselves as they are, understand others' people's feelings, and help those who need our help. Stories are a great way to make abstract emotions feel approachable and real to children. If they connect well with a story or a particular character, they might have an easier time understanding

the empathy concept and begin practicing it themselves. Over time, reading books becomes a habit that will stay with the children for life.

Many parents turn to educational tools like stories or games when a child has shown a resistance or inability to express big, complex emotions like empathy. Whether the child had a situation where they failed to express age-appropriate empathy, or they're just beginning to grasp it, stories are a great tool to make difficult topics feel less daunting or scary to young children. They may even make the lesson feel fun for both of you.

3. How do educational games and apps help children develop empathy?

To equip children with necessary life skills, we need to stimulate their emotional development from the early years. Reading is a great way to help children develop empathy, and educational games and apps offer an efficient method to enhance their engagement. Many kids who resist reading or traditional classwork may have an easier time learning concepts when presented in a game format. Since games feel fun and exciting, it's easy to sneak little lessons and essential knowledge into the games to help children learn. This is especially important when teaching children how to deal with abstract emotions like empathy, which does not always come naturally to them.

Games can help introduce students to scenarios that require them to show empathy by letting them see through the eyes of others and reward them when they succeed. Many children are motivated by competition or rewards, so this can be a good way to positively encourage them to model these new behaviors and practice them in a fun way. As a result, they will start to better filter out irrelevant details and show a more significant concern for empathy.

4. Advantages of Children Story Time for empathy and emotional intelligence development

Children Story Time can help young learners develop empathy and emotional competencies through reading and gameplay. It is a feature-rich tool that engages children at various grade levels and meets them where they are in terms of education and understanding, ensuring the best learning opportunity.

Here are some of the advantages of the Children Story Time main features:

1. Interactive stories and quizzes for different levels

Most parents aren't sure how to balance the current ability level of their children and the desire to help them expand and grow their knowledge as well. If you are worried about stories being hard for your child to understand, the Children Story Time app offers the solution.

The stories and quizzes selected for Children Story Time were created by experts who know exactly what your child needs at each stage. Each story and quiz are crafted for different reading and education levels. Vocabulary, sentence structure, and content are designed to meet your reader's needs and challenge them to crave more. The material is meant to be challenging without feeling overly tricky or impossible, and most importantly, it delivers results.

2. Audiobook option

The creators of Children Story Time understand the importance of utilizing various types of tools to teach children how to read. Many children excel when they are read to, so the stories can all be narrated like audiobooks. Parents love this feature because children can work on the game independently but get the same benefits of being read to by a parent or teacher.

Professional voice actors narrate all Children Story Time stories to help the stories come alive and provide a read-along option, allowing them to stay focused during independent reading time. This feature provides children with an opportunity to hear rhythms and speech patterns that they might miss when they are only reading. Children engage intellectually with the content; they learn about voice and expression and improve their own speaking and articulation through increased exposure to various syntax structures and vocabulary.

3. Word exchange program

Stories are the most meaningful and interesting when we help to write them. Children Story Time allows young readers to take ownership by helping to craft the stories by switching out words as they read them, which helps them expand their vocabulary in no time. When

children are prompted to explore the meaning of a story by making it their own, they learn a lot through the trial and error of the process. The ultimate aim of the Word exchange program by Children Story Time is to create powerful connections between words and learn how word choice can change the tone and sometimes the story's message. This is a very helpful tool, especially as children get older and begin to understand reading for context and hidden meanings.

4. Phonics mini-games

Phonics is a crucial skill for early years students and a fundamental introduction to the world of letters and sounds. However, learning phonics can be hard and time-consuming. Many parents just don't know where to start and what approach to use when they notice that their child struggles to sound out words and has difficulty with new words. There are countless programs available promising to teach your child proper pronunciation, but the market is flooded, and the results are unclear.

Phonics mini-games created by Children Story Time experts provide an important foundation for children's future learning. The games are designed to meet developing readers' needs and challenge them just enough. As they conquer each game, they will gain the much-needed confidence to continue to expand their rapidly growing vocabulary.

Children Story Time incorporates phonics lessons into your child's reading and educational play time using the mini-games available right on the app. It takes the average student at least 17 exposures to learn a new pattern. This may feel like drudgery for parents and children when learning new words and sounds, but it doesn't have to. Children Story Time handily transforms boring study into entertaining activity, allowing young readers to play fun mini-games to support their developing phonics skills as they progress through the stories.

5. Parent and teacher dashboard

Want to make sure your child is getting the most out of their reading practice? Children Story Time parent and teacher dashboard will feature data about the reader's progress so parents can stay up to date on children's progress at-a-glance. It allows parents and educators to access quiz scores, phonics skills, and reading levels right on the handy dashboard provided by the Children Story Time

app. This is great for parents who want to let their children learn to work independently on their reading but still want to keep up with what they're learning. A fun way to use the dashboard is to develop rewards and different ways of celebrating your child as they meet and exceed their goals. This will help them feel motivated to stay on task and even encourage them to ask for more time with the game because they begin to gain confidence.

Get ready to watch and celebrate your reader's progress!

6. Ebooks

Many parents love to feel involved in their child's learning and may struggle with how to make that happen without feeling like helicopter parents. However, just because your reader is practicing with an app doesn't mean you can't enjoy these stories together! Stories on the Children Story Time app are written for your child to read independently, but the ebooks are perfect for you to enjoy reading together.

Children Story Time makes it easy to get involved and makes reading a fun family activity. Each time your reader completes a story, you will receive a notification email and a copy of one of our complimentary ebooks. By receiving these ebooks, you get a glimpse into what your child is working on, and you have the chance to let them show you what they've learned. This makes it easy to get involved and gives your child a chance to get excited about their achievements as they work towards the next level.

5. Essential features of an efficient educational game

An efficient educational game is intrinsically motivating, engaging, and interesting. Education is becoming embedded with digital media. Still, although plenty of educational games and apps are available on the market, not all of them are created equally and have the same benefits. It's important to weed through the noise and find educational games that are well-made, engaging, and fun. Moreover, children don't actually want to play just any game. If you are looking for a good off-shelf educational game for your children to know if the game would benefit them, first try it out yourself.

Here are some of the most critical factors to look for:

1. Engaging game concept

If an educational game doesn't boost children's interest and engagement, children don't want to be interested in playing it. Many parents invest in a game or app to help their children learn. However, children use them only once or twice and give up just because the game was not interesting for them. The game has to be fun and engaging to keep children motivated. It should have a story or a set of steps to follow that draw your child in, encouraging them to keep playing and progress through the levels.

2. Focus on specific skills

Some games try to cover too many areas and teach several different things like reading, math, and other concepts all at once. These games tend to be less popular with children because engaging with them and feeling successful is hard. That's why, when it comes to educational games, it's crucial to find the one that addresses the specific area of study you want your child to focus on. This can be an area where they need a little extra help or simply a topic they enjoy learning about. The Children Story Time APP focuses solely on reading skills and phonics. It doesn't cover other subjects like math or science skills, so children can really hone in on learning how to excel in reading.

3. Simple rules

Children inherently have a strong desire to understand things, and rules teach them not only self-discipline but also how to make healthy choices. When they are presented with a new game to play, they want to learn how it works and how to win. That's why the rules of educational games and apps should always be easy to understand. It should not take children several readings of the instructions to understand the fundamentals of the game. Ensuring there is no barrier to getting children engaged and ready to play the game, the children will not get confused and frustrated, and there is a higher probability they will like the game.

4. Rich interface for successful performance

Inviting interface, improved navigation, and how educational games and apps look really matter to children. Since they are exposed to

tablets, phones, and other electronic devices so often, they know very well to differentiate between good and bad quality apps or games. Children are much more likely to engage with a game that has an attractive, rich, full-color, kid-friendly interface with realistic animations, fun details, and special effects. The goal is to make players forget that they're playing an educational game and engage them in the same way a for-fun game might. When looking for educational apps or games for your child, a good sign is to find one that appeals to you as the parent because that will most likely appeal to your child too.

5. Opportunity to compete with other students

There is almost no child who doesn't like to compete. Whether they are highly competitive and want to make everything into a game or if they only enjoy friendly competition, competition inspires them to do their best and learn to work with others. Therefore, games that offer the opportunity to compete online with other players or encourage group gameplay in person tend to be favorites among children of all ages. This way, children forget they are in a learning environment and focus more on the fun aspects of earning points or winning the game.

6. Educational games and apps as an effective method to maximize children learning

Not so long ago, many parents were resistant to providing their children with a tablet or allowing them to play video games. However, the technology is not going anywhere and is here to stay. Nowadays, parents are beginning to see the benefits of embracing technology rather than discouraging it. They buy tablets for children more than ever before and are interested in implementing technology in their children's education.

Here are just a few reasons why parents choose to apply games and applications for their children's education:

1. Affordable home-learning tool

Parents have to purchase new materials at least every school year and ensure that what they buy is up to date. Shelling out tons of money for workbooks, textbooks, and other educational material for

a child to work on at home can get expensive. On the other hand, educational games are an inexpensive way for children to keep up with learning outside of school. Parents can download the app or game to a device they already own or a special tablet for their child. Often the games include levels that span several grade levels, so you may only need to purchase the app once to get all the content your child will need for years to come. This is a great advantage for budget-conscious parents who want to provide their children with access to the most efficient tools without breaking the bank.

2. Easy to take on-the-go

Traveling with all the materials to cover certain lessons can be cumbersome, while you are away from home can be cumbersome. With educational games, all you have to do is make sure your tablet is charged to ensure your child has access to the content they need to learn. Educational games and apps are incredibly convenient for families that often travel or spend a lot of time on the go. Parents don't have to worry about lugging many notebooks, papers, and pens. Tossing the tablet into a bag provides their kids with a whole suite of fun, educational games to play. This is also true for parents who do any distance learning or homeschooling.

3. Teach essential technology skills early

As technology continues to evolve, it is obvious that children will not be able to avoid it in their future life, so it is best to introduce them to technology early and correctly. Parents can control the proper use of apps and games by helping their children access them on their chosen devices and setting appropriate boundaries. When kids understand that there's a time and a place for technology, they are less likely to fight you on the rules around it later on as well. The things they learn in the early years will become the building blocks upon which they approach technology for the rest of their lives. Moreover, when children are raised with technology as a part of their life, rather than something forbidden, they are more likely to respect and use it without abusing it in the future. In addition, the skills they learn when playing games will help them navigate more complex technology in the future. In the highly digital world that we live in, it's difficult to do much without encountering technology somewhere.

4. Maximize children's engagement

Parents and educators like educational apps and games because children enjoy them so much, and they benefit their early development. Many children might struggle in a more traditional academic setting. Sometimes when children don't enjoy learning, it's because they are having difficulty learning the way the material is being taught. Often, these children will connect with the same material when it's presented in game form, and parents should support them. The difference in the same material delivery makes all the difference. There is something to be said for the fun characters, bright colors, and unique storylines that games can provide. Games can transfer your child into a fun new world where learning a new concept becomes fun rather than daunting. No matter the reason, when children are excited about learning it is easy for parents to get on board and encourage the use of technology in a beneficial and interactive way.

7. The importance of avatar creation in children's games

Avatars are graphic images that gamers can create to represent themselves in the video game. This inclusive personalization is usually customizable. A child can choose from any number of characteristics, including colors, cartoons, animals, and even people with realistic features to represent them in the game world.

Here are a few reasons why avatars feature matter in children's educational games:

1. Experiment with creativity

Creating an avatar is the ultimate expression of creativity, which provides a great diversity of choices. It allows users to decide who and what they want to be, which feels powerful for children. What a child chooses to represent themselves as in a game is a big indicator of their interests and preference. Parents might learn about their favorite animal, color, or the clothes they like to wear by noticing what their avatar is. Whether they choose a powerful animal or a person who looks nothing like them, parents can get an idea about children's perception of themselves and what is important to them.

2. Create alternate personas

Aside from creating avatars, children's games also allow them to

create a whole new persona for themselves. This especially rings true for older children coming into their own and starting to form permanent personalities and preferences. While it's essential that children's game and app usage always be monitored by parents, creating an avatar for a game is a great way to try on a different persona. In an alternate reality of the game, children can choose an avatar with wild hair color or choose to be a cartoon character they've always loved. The options are endless and exciting. Children can also select multiple avatars or change theirs frequently to match their moods.

3. Play for avatar rewards

Some educational games and apps reward players with new avatar levels to encourage children to keep playing. Once players reach certain levels or earn a certain amount of points, they might unlock different features to make their avatar different by changing new colors, accessories, and more. If a child has a lot of fun designing their avatar and likes to change it often, this might be a big motivator to keep playing and reach new levels, which is an inspiring and effective educational tool.

The similarity between game avatars and NFT characters

NFTs (nonfungible tokens) are the latest trend increasing in popularity as more and more people begin to understand what they are and how they work. Because it is an entirely new technology, it is drawing interest worldwide.

NFTs aren't just for digital investors and entrepreneurs; and people are now creating something called NFT characters right on the blockchain as well, which are used to play in games on NFT platforms, so it is an avatar that you own. You can create it in your own likeness or make a unique NFT character to represent you on these platforms. NFT characters are easy to make using any number of apps available on almost all devices like smartphones and tablets. Users don't need advanced coding skills or prior NFT knowledge to create an NFT character and start using it on the platforms.

8. Benefits of the innovative NFT platforms for children

NFT is an innovative idea that doesn't have users' age bracket. Many parents are embracing NFT platforms because they know that their children will most likely be fully immersed in this world as they grow up, so it's a good way to start them off in an age-appropriate, safe setting.

A host of NFT platforms are emerging and being marketed specifically to target children. At this point, likely, your child might better understand the world of NFTs than you. The entire industry has been exploding, and developers are trying to widen their customer base. Although even most adults admit to having limited knowledge of what NFTs actually are, that doesn't stop developers from creating new platforms and lowering their target demographic. These new kid's NFT platforms are typically very safe for children to use and are heavily monitored, which eases most parents' worries. The ultimate aim of these NFT platforms targeted at children as young as 3 is to introduce them to the world of technology they were born into. By the time the children of today are grown up, NFTs will be as common as the dollar bill.

9. Elements of a good-quality educational game

Choosing a good game or app to help a child learn at home can be overwhelming. In the ocean of options available, many parents might feel lost. Every game boasts different features that make their game the most educational or the most fun, so parents need to weed through it and really know what they're looking for.

A great place to start is to ask your child's teacher or the parents in your child's class if they have any recommendations. Even if they cannot tell you a specific app or game that they love, they might be able to help you steer clear of ones to avoid.

Here are some helpful tips to guide parents on the search for a good app or game for your child:

Robust parent dashboard - Any good educational game should allow parents to monitor their child's performance. Parents should be able to see how their children are performing, what level they are on, and what is coming next so they can help them succeed.

Interactive features - The best games provide a completely immersive experience. Even educational games have really increased in quality

to become fun to play. The game should provide plenty of options for your child to make decisions, interact, and immerse in the storyline.

Quizzes and Mini-Games - To keep a child focused on the lessons they are learning, built-in quizzes and mini-games within the game are great tools. These assessments help children keep track of what they are learning and feel a sense of accomplishment as they check things off.

Multiple levels of progress - Although children will be motivated to want to finish the game as quickly as possible, parents should try to choose games that have several levels of play. When they reach the end of the game too soon, it might feel too easy or be disappointing. Good educational games will have lots of fun levels for children to explore.

10. Educational games, apps, and platforms as an innovative way of learning

What does the future of education hold? What will the classrooms of the future look like?

New technologies are paving the way for an education system as far into the future as we can imagine. Educators can shift away from traditional teaching methods, and students may start enjoying studying. Children may perceive learning activities as engaging and exciting in the very near future.

To prepare kids to confidently navigate the technology surrounding them, it is important to introduce them to technology appropriately. A great way to do this is using educational tools like games or apps that encourage them to utilize technology and learn something while at it. There are countless games and apps on the market designed to meet the needs of all different types of children. Whether the focus is working on fundamental skills like reading and math or softer skills like emotional intelligence and empathy, there are many options to choose from. However, these same children might find that they are drawn to games later in their educational careers. Therefore, it's important never to force your child to participate in a game that they don't enjoy or don't seem to be getting any value from.

Good-quality educational games, apps, and platforms discipline the mind, teach clear logic, and develop the ability to draw conclusions. In a nutshell, these games are dominated by emotions, making the process of participation in the game a pleasure for children. This contributes to the emergence of positive emotions from the learning process and creates a creative and friendly atmosphere, promoting enthusiasm for reading and learning.

Meta Description

Learn why the fun new features in children's educational games make all the difference.

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