

# Why are Students Crazy About Minecraft?

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### 1. Minecraft Is An Online Block-based Game

Students create all blocks from scratch. It gives them freedom of expression. Students create their own worlds in their own way and then they go inside and play within this world of theirs – how mind-blowing is that?

### 2. It's A Never-Ending Story

The moment one adventure is finished, another one emerges. Each achievement opens the door to new tempting possibilities, so there is absolutely no way children and teens can be bored. They are unable to break this circle voluntarily unless you get them out of the game by force.

Minecraft is addictive because, as any other video game, it was created to put the player into the state of flow where one thing leads to another, always keeping them focused and interested. However, it does so in its own special way, because there is no end goal, no instructions – just a medium with endless possibilities – and of course, your imagination to create your own stories.

### 3. Minecraft Makes Them Learn

Yes, children love learning as long as you do not call it learning. Some students might think that learning is always boring because in their world it means sitting still and cramming for good grades. In fact, our brain is hard-wired to enjoy learning. We virtually get high on exploring and finding new ways to do things, and back in prehistoric times, games were created for this single purpose – to teach us new skills.

So basically, all kids do is learn – and Minecraft is not an exception. They learn to solve puzzles, they learn to dig up the necessary information in the Minecraft Wiki, they seek the advice of the more experienced peers, they search the Internet – and they will need those skills later in our cyber world!

#### **4. Minecraft Experience Is Not Limited To The Game**

Ever wondered where all those hours your students spend on YouTube go? Chances are they watch others play Minecraft. Recording gameplay and creating those YouTube videos is another way to share their experiences and boast what they've achieved and created. They watch those videos in order to learn tips and tricks about the game. Those recordings are tutorials, where game gurus share "secrets of the craft." Kids watch them to find out what they can do next and how they will achieve it.

Minecraft has created a huge community, and this feeling of fandom bonds is familiar to anyone, whether their devotion lies with *Star Trek*, *Marvel comics*, *Harry Potter*, or whatever. Children play together, talk about Minecraft, read about it, watch others, even create Minecraft-inspired arts and Halloween costumes.

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