

TERVETULOAS

PELIKAS VATTAJIEN VANHEMPAINILTAAN





WHO ARE WE?





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- Digital hobby for middle school aged kids
- Around 5000 youths in a little over 100 municipal areas
- Local- and distant clubs, camps and parent-teacher evenings
- Enabling safe and supportive gaming environment for everyone

CLUBS IN HÄMEENLINNA

- First year of opetations
- Social media and Youtube clubs
- 10-20 participants





SAFE AND EQUAL GAMING ENVIRONMENT

- Safe and respectful environment
- Prevention of bullying and harassment
- Everyone feels welcomed
- Promoting good interaction skills
- Addressing discrimination and harassment quickly







GAMING AND YOUNG PEOPLE

- 78.8% of 10-19 year olds play digital games weekly or more often
- 3,8% don't play videogames <u>at all</u>
- Gaming and digitality are a permanent part of everyday life and culture
- For many young people, games are an important way to stay in touch with friends

(Pelaajabarometri, 2024)



WHY DO YOUNG PEOPLE PLAY?

ENTERTAINMENT

FRIENDS AND COMMUNITY

ADVENTUROUSNESS AND CREATIVITY

COMPETITIVENESS

FORM OF ESCAPE

WHAT CAN GAMING ENABLE AND TEACH?



LEARNING THE DIGITAL SKILLS OF THE FUTURE

- Computer and programming skills
- Cybersecurity and digital literacy
- Skills needed at school (language skills, IT)
- Creative problem solving

CREATING LASTING FRIENDSHIPS

- Friendships and trust
- Social development
- Long lasting friendships

* ADVENTURE AND FUN

- Having fun and freedom to express yourself
- Support of learning and trying new things
- Succeeding in things and what it gives
- Joy and trust in your everyday life

SELF-ESTEEM AND SELF-CONFIDENCE

- Development of self-esteem and self-confidence
- Positive feedback and experiences of success
- Encourages to try something new
- Successes support belief in one's own abilities in everyday life as well



THE BALANCE OF GAMING AND SCREEN TIME

- Healthy gaming habits
- Balancing gaming in everyday life
- Balance of screen time and well-being

GUIDED GAMING

- Safe gaming environment
- Social skills and co-op
- Emotional and conversational support



WHAT CAN GAMING ENABLE AND TEACH?

- Language skills
- Creating social connections
- Forming new interests
- Creativity, imagination, and leaving your comfort zone
- Facing difficulties and obstacles
- Media criticism and internet culture
- Problem-solving development
- Teamwork and conversing skills
- Decision making and leadership skills
- Self-expression and storytelling
- Understanding cultures and learning empathy
- Patience





HOW TO PROCEED?

- Feel free to explore young people's gaming hobbies - learn know it
- Have an open discussion about gaming with your kids - what they play, why and with whom
- Find out what games are out there and feel free to try playing yourself
- Follow your kid's gaming hobbies, be active and ask how the games are going
- Get to know gaming communities and events together - these are a great way to better understand the hobby
- Encourage a balance between gaming time and other activities - Discuss together how gaming can be part of a varied everyday life







USEFUL LINKS

GUIDED GAMING:

www.peliklubit.fi www.digikerhot.fi

GAMING COMMUNITIES:

www.discord.gg/incoach
www.peliseuraa.fi
www.seul.fi/yhteiso/discord

SUPPORT FOR PARENTS:

www.vanhemmille.seul.fi www.digipelirajaton.fi



