

## Tips for MMOGs or Massively Multi-Player Online Games

**These online games are unrated.** Before you let your kids play, check the sites out to make sure you're comfortable with the content. Or check out Common Sense Media's reviews.

**Nothing in life is totally free.** These games all have free components. But to play them robustly or competitively typically requires purchases of cards, subscriptions, toys, or other merchandise. Talk to your kids about how much you feel comfortable investing in these games.

**Set time limits.** These games are really compelling and designed to suck up oodles of time. Before your kids turn on the computer, make sure they know when they're expected to turn it off.

**Have a code of conduct.** Social interaction is key to MMOGs (hence the "multi-player"). Make sure you go over the rules with your kids about what is and isn't OK to say or do. Establish a no-bullying policy, and make sure your kids know to report any bullying behavior (both on the site and to you) that happens to them.

**Review cyber safety rules.** Don't share any personal identifiers like names, addresses, or phone numbers. Don't share passwords, either, and pick gender-neutral user names.