

Growing Gamers : Helping Parents and Children Grow Together



Bryden Trakalo, Shane Toma

Introduction

With gaming constantly increasing in popularity, more and more parents are having trouble understanding their child's hobby. It is important for parents to be able to support and guide their child no matter their interest. Without this support, children are liable to form poor habits and detriment the communities they are involved with. By bridging the information gap between parents and children, this project looks to help remediate these issues.

Objective

The goal of Growing Gamers is to improve the well being of the video game community by encouraging healthy gaming practices. To achieve this, we are targeting young gamers and their parents. We are developing a tool to give parents the ability to be informed about their child's game activity while respecting their space. This enables parents and their children to work together on forming healthy habits.

Technologies

The front end app consists of one display window, one hidden data collection window, and one hidden controller window. The app runs on a node.js environment. Webpack is used to compress the app.

The back end consists of a node.js server, mongodb, and use of the Twilio API. Twilio is a SMS messaging service. HTTPS is used for a secure connection to the front-end.

Your cell number is your account.

Growing Gamers

Parent Portal

Enter Cell Number:

All activity uses cell authentication.

Parents can set customized limits for their child.

Settings

Set the Rules:

Daily Time Limit (minutes):

Bed Time:

Game Limit:

Notify me if Exceeded:

- Daily Time Limit
- Bed Time
- Game Limit

Send me Digests:

- Daily

Every child is unique and every parent has their own style.

Children are given useful messages and reminders.

It is **past your bedtime**, time to stop playing.

The time is: **03:12 PM**

[See You Tomorrow](#)

This helps them independently make good choices.

Parents can see their child's performance and habits.

Statistics

Performance



Habits



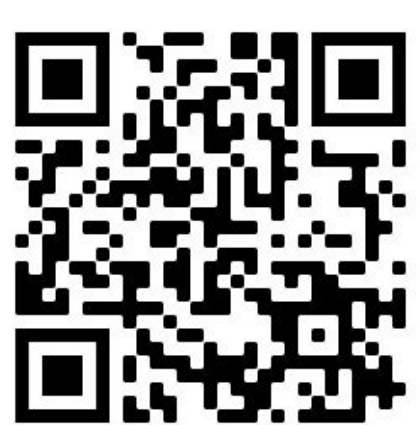
So they can see how their child is doing at any time.

Future Work

There is a great deal of potential for future work that could be explored. Adding email notifications in addition to SMS might be useful. Implementing different limits for weekends and holidays is a highly requested feature. Adding support for more games is necessary to increase the value of the app. Currently the app can only support a single child per phone number, this could be increased to make the product desirable for parents of multiple children. More information on the parent portal, increased customization, and better information for the child can all add value to this product.

Please Add Comments or Suggestions in This Box:

GitHub



Check Us Out

We are planning on launching our app on the Overwolf app store in the future. Keep an eye out!

Parent Portal



Acknowledgements

A special thanks to our project mentors Trevor Douglas and Timothy Maciag for their guidance and support. Thank you to all who participated in our testing and to those who provided us with feedback.