Below are the Top Games/Websites that Students at Frontier are Playing and/or Viewing:

- Minecraft (E 10+ Everyone over 10)
- Mario (E-Everyone)
- Youtube.com (a variety of rates depending on the video)
- Call of Duty (M-Mature 17+)
- Halo (T-Teen and M-Mature 17+)
- GTA5 (Grand Theft Auto 5) (M-Mature 17+)

The above rating following the games are from the Entertainment Software Ratings Board (ESRB.org), please view that site for more information about these games and others your child(ren) are playing.

Other rating website include:
- IMDb.com (for television and movies)
- Goodreads.com (books)

You can also find a lot of information about the best movies, games, apps, websites, books, tv, music and more for kids of all ages at Common Sense Media: https://www.commonsensemedia.org/game-lists

A Few Teacher Recommended Apps/Games:

**Epic!** This site allows you to personalize an online library of books that are at appropriate levels. There are many options and topics for books to read. Some of them will even read the book to you!

**Raz-Kids**: There are books and fun activities to do. This site also has an app to download for on-the-go fun!

**Khan Academy** This site has mostly math content. It is definitely more “academic” as it has lessons and step by step directions to work on specific skills.

The following information has been compiled by the counseling department as a parent resource for digital parenting and some tip sheets when navigating through technology. If you have questions or would like more information please contact the counseling department.
7 STEPS TO GOOD DIGITAL PARENTING

1) TALK WITH YOUR KIDS
   - Stay calm
   - Talk early and often
   - Be open and direct

2) EDUCATE YOURSELF
   - Search online for anything you don’t understand
   - Try out the apps, games, and sites yourself
   - Explore the GDP tips and resources

3) USE PARENTAL CONTROLS
   - Activate the safety settings in your operating system, search engine, and games
   - Use the parental controls on your children’s phones, tablets, and game consoles
   - Monitor your kids’ use and their screen time

4) SET GROUND RULES AND APPLY SANCTIONS
   - Agree and sign a family safety contract
   - Set time and place limits for their tech use
   - Enforce sanctions when necessary

5) FRIEND AND FOLLOW
   - Friend your kids on social media
   - Respect their online space and don’t over do it
   - Encourage your kids to create a good digital reputation

6) EXPLORE, SHARE, AND CELEBRATE
   - Go online with your kids and explore their online world
   - Take advantage of new ways of communicating
   - Learn from them and have fun

7) BE A GOOD DIGITAL ROLE MODEL
   - Curb your own bad digital habits
   - Know when to unplug
   - Show your kids how to collaborate and create online

www.fosi.org/good-digital-parenting
Minecraft

What is it?
Minecraft is an engaging, educational, and creative game. Think of it as Legos without the mess in your living room. Players place and break blocks in a 3D environment. They must "mine" for all the materials they need for their character to live, including the building blocks needed to create their virtual spaces.

What is the age requirement?
Minecraft is for children ages four and older.

Where can I learn more?
www.minecraft.net

3 Things Parents Should Know

1. There are several modes of play, but the two main modes are Survival and Creative. In Survival mode, a player faces zombies and must acquire the resources needed to build shelter, get food, and fight predators. In Creative mode, players have unlimited resources to mine from in order to build homes, towns, cities, or whole worlds. Kids can be invited to join each other's worlds, so be sure your kids are playing with friends or people you approve.

2. One issue to watch out for with this game is that it can lead to lots of screen time. There are endless possibilities, levels, and creations for users to work through. Ultimately, it can be difficult for parents to pull their kids away from the fun. Establish time limits for gaming before your child starts to play.

3. There are a huge number of fan-made Minecraft videos on YouTube. Kids can learn new tricks and get ideas for construction, or simply watch others take the game to new creative heights. However, parents need to be aware that not all of these videos are appropriate for little ones due to adult language.
YouTube

What is it?
YouTube is a video-sharing website where users can upload and view video content.

What is the age requirement?
To create an account on YouTube, users must be 13 years of age or older.

Where can I learn more?
www.youtube.com

3 Things Parents Should Know

1. YouTube has a Safety Mode that helps screen potentially inappropriate content that you may not want your children to come across. This can be turned on at the bottom of any page on YouTube.

2. When videos are uploaded to YouTube, they are made public by default. Users have to select either making their video private or unlisted. Private videos can only be seen by the person that uploaded them and by the users they select. Unlisted videos are only viewable to people who have the link. These privacy settings can be altered either before or after uploading a video.

3. YouTube also has its own Parent Resources that cover online harassment, helping parents manage what their children are watching, removing personal information from your child's profile, and more.

www.fosi.org/parenting
USEFUL TIPS FOR UNDERSTANDING
STUDENT DATA PRIVACY

You can feel more confident in your child’s use of technology in the classroom and at home by taking the time to understand the services they are using and how their personal data is being handled. Below we have three steps that can help you think about what is happening to your child’s information:

Talk to Your Child’s School to Find Out What Apps or Services They are Using

Ask your child’s teacher what online education services are being used in the classroom and by the school administration. Educational apps and services can transform the way that your child learns and develops, but it is important that you have an understanding of the way your child’s information may be used and stored. You should talk to your child’s school about how they safeguard information and learn about the procedures and practices they have in place.

Don’t be afraid to ask questions of the school about the reason for using the service, as well as the ways in which the children’s information is being protected.

Learn About the Safety, Privacy and Security of Apps or Services and How They Handle Your Child’s Personal Information

After you find out what services and apps are being used, visit the company’s website and check out the terms of use, privacy policy and general site information. Look for answers to these three key questions:

• How is the data being collected being used?
• How is the data being shared?
• How is the data protected?

For added peace of mind, check to see if the company has committed to signing the Student Data Privacy Pledge. The Future of Privacy Forum and the Software & Information Industry Association created a pledge where companies publicly commit to the responsible collection and use of student data. Almost 300 companies have already signed this pledge.

Remember You Have Control

As a parent remember that you have the control. If you still do not feel comfortable with the services and apps being used, voice your concerns to your child’s school. Remember you can always opt your child out of using the programs or apps.

fosi.org/parenting
ACTIVATE PARENTAL CONTROLS

The ESRB Parental Controls Guide has easy, step-by-step instructions on setting parental controls for your video game console, handheld device or computer. Download the guides for the specific devices in your home and watch an instructional video for setting up parental controls.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON SETTING CONTROLS, VISIT: www.esrb.org/about/settingcontrols.aspx

TIPS FOR PARENTS:

• Check the age and content rating information.

• Use parental controls, which are available for video game consoles and leading app stores like Google Play to help manage which apps and games your kids download and play. And keep your password or PIN a secret!

• Get the detailed facts. ESRB provides rating summaries that offer a detailed description of the content that factored into a video game’s rating. These summaries are available on the ESRB website or via the ESRB rating search app.

• For mobile games and apps with an ESRB rating, remember to check for additional notices describing interactive elements such as user interaction, digital purchases, sharing location, and/or if unrestricted Internet access is provided.

• Regardless of where the purchase is made—online or in-store—a little window shopping beforehand can save time and help ensure you make an informed purchase. Review information about video games online before you hit the stores and on product detail pages in app stores prior to downloading a mobile game or app.

• Don’t be afraid to play video games with your children and download the apps they’re talking about. This can make for great family time, and a good way to learn more about the games they are playing and apps they’re using.
Facebook

What is it?
Facebook is an online social networking service that allows people to create profiles, post pictures and videos, and to connect with friends and family.

What is the age requirement?
To sign up for Facebook, users must be at least 13-years-old.

Where can I learn more?
www.facebook.com

3 Things Parents Should Know

1. Just because you’re friends with your child on Facebook, doesn’t mean you’re able to see everything they post. Users have control over who can see the content they share. If you’re worried about what your child may be posting, talk to them about what it means to build a healthy digital reputation.

2. Keep up with privacy settings on Facebook with Privacy Checkup. This is a helpful refresher to see what apps are connected to your account, what personal information you have visible, and more.

3. Facebook has a Bully Prevention Hub with resources for parents, teens, and educators. It covers how to take action if you or someone you know is being bullied online, how to talk with them about the problem, and how to use the tools available on Facebook to find a solution.

www.fosi.org/parenting
Snapchat

What is it?
Snapchat is a mobile app that allows users to share photos, videos, or messages known as “snaps” with a list of contacts.

What is the age requirement?
To sign up for Snapchat, users must be 13 years of age or older.

Where can I learn more?
www.snapchat.com

3 Things Parents Should Know

1. You can set time limits (1 to 10 seconds) for how long recipients can view your snaps. After the specified time range expires, the snap disappears from the recipient's phone. However, it's important to note that the recipient can take a screenshot of the snap, which saves it to their phone.

2. Even though senders are notified when recipients take a screenshot of their snap, there are apps available that allow users to secretly save snaps. With this in mind, it's important to reinforce the idea that materials posted or shared online have the potential to be seen by unintended audiences.

3. For children under the age of 13 who are interested in using Snapchat, Snapchat has developed an app called SnapKidz. SnapKidz offers many of the same features as Snapchat, but does not allow them to share their photos or videos with others. Learn more about using Snapchat in their Guide for Parents.
Instagram

What is it?
Instagram is a mobile app that allows users to take pictures and videos and to share them online with followers. Users can also post their Instagram photos on Facebook, Twitter, Tumblr, and Flickr with the option of adding a location tag.

What is the age requirement?
To sign up for Instagram, users must be 13 years of age or older.

Where can I learn more?
www.instagram.com

3 Things Parents Should Know

1. When you make an account on Instagram, your photos and videos are shared publicly by default. Make your account private if you want to prevent people you or your kids don't know from seeing what you post.

2. In addition to the photos you can share publicly with all of your followers, you can also share photos privately with a limited number of people via Instagram Direct.

3. You can add location tags to your photos or videos on Instagram with the 'Add to Photo Map' feature. This is turned off by default, but is easily added when posting new content. Please consider whether or not you want people to know where your photos or videos were taken.
Now is the perfect time to clean-up your digital footprint.

Here’s a checklist with some tips to get you started:

✔ SEARCH YOURSELF ONLINE
Do a quick Web search of your first and last name. Don’t forget to try slightly different spellings, too. Find something about yourself you don’t like? If it’s posted by a friend, ask them to take it down. Or try contacting the site administrator and request they remove any unwanted content.

☐ CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS
The privacy settings on your favorite website or social network may have changed since you last checked. Take time to understand current settings so you know just what you’re sharing, and update them if there are things you don’t want public.

☐ USE STRONG PASSWORDS
Whether email or banking, it’s a good idea to have different passwords for different sites. Change the passwords across your various accounts to a combination of words, numbers and symbols that are easy for you to remember but hard for others to guess.

☐ UPDATE SOFTWARE
Computer viruses and spyware can wreak havoc on your computer. Check for software updates you may have previously ignored or download one of the many safe programs available online to ensure you have the most up-to-date security for your system. You can even schedule automatic updates and let your computer do the work for you!

☐ THINK BEFORE YOU POST
Your digital footprint is more than the information available about you on the Web; it’s about your interactions too. Before you put anything online, ask yourself if it’s something you really want others to see or know about you.

☐ MAINTAIN YOUR MOBILE DEVICE
Take time to understand your mobile device settings and set a password. It’s also a good idea to review any apps you’ve downloaded and their information-sharing policies. Delete ones you just don’t use.

☐ BUILD A POSITIVE REPUTATION
Use your online presence to build a positive reputation for yourself and inspire others! Start a blog about the good things happening in your community, make a virtual fundraising campaign for a cause you’re passionate about, or text a compliment to a friend.

Family Online Safety Institute
GOOD DIGITAL PARENTING
www.fosi.org/good-digital-parenting