

ROBLOX is an online platform and game creation system that allows users to design and play games created by other users. It offers a wide range of games across various genres, from adventure and role-playing to simulations and obstacle courses. Users can customise their avatars, build virtual worlds, and script gameplay mechanics. It fosters creativity, social interaction, and problem-solving skills, providing a platform for users to express themselves and engage in collaborative gaming experiences in a virtual environment. Primary users of ROBLOX are children and teenagers, although it attracts users of all ages.

ROBLOX presents several challenges to its users, particularly children and teens.

Inappropriate Content: Users may encounter inappropriate content, including violence, adult themes, and inappropriate language, within games or user-generated content.

Online Predators: The platform may attract online predators who attempt to groom or exploit children and teens through messaging or interactions.

Excessive Screen Time: leading to decreased physical activity, social isolation, and negative impacts on mental health.

Parental Controls: Parents should enable and regularly review parental controls and privacy settings on ROBLOX accounts to restrict access to inappropriate content and control communication features.

Here is how we suggest these challenges can be Approached

Open Communication: Encourage open communication with children and teens about their online activities on ROBLOX. Educate them about online safety, including the risks of interacting with strangers and sharing personal information.

Supervision: Monitor usage of ROBLOX, especially for younger users. Set time limits and encourage balanced screen time with other activities.

Reporting and Blocking: Teach children and teens how to report inappropriate content, block users engaging in inappropriate behaviour, and seek help if they feel uncomfortable or threatened.

Education and Awareness: Educate children and teens about the potential risks and challenges of using ROBLOX, including the importance of respecting others and recognising warning signs of predatory behaviour - for example a user asking personal questions or suggesting they connect on other apps such as WhatsApp or Discord.

How to Report in-game abuse

- Click on the Menu button, located at the upper left of the screen. This icon looks like three lines stacked on top of each other.
- Click Report tab at the top of the menu.
- Click on the Which Player pull-down menu, and select which player to report.
- Click on the Type of Abuse pull down menu, to select the inappropriate action. Additional details can be written in the Short Description box.
- Click Submit to finalise.

How to block a user

To block a ROBLOX member go to their profile page. Under their character thumbnail, you'll see a 'More' button. Hit the button, and click 'Block user'. This adds the user to your block list, which you can manage at any time within the 'Privacy' tab of the Account Settings Page.

Like any online game, ROBLOX can be a positive social activity that keeps kids connected to their friends and can be a potential bonding experience if you choose to play with your child. Just be mindful of screen time and monitor that chat. We always encourage open conversations around privacy and personal safety.

More App Fact Sheets available from the Carly Ryan Foundation. info@carlyryanfoundation.com

For additional support or to report inappropriate contact go to accce.gov.au or esafety.gov.au