



December 2014

YOU SHOULD KNOW

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Dear Jessica,

Invariably, every parent is confronted with questions about video games for his or her kids. Knowing that video games top many wish lists for holiday gift giving, we thought a little inside information on the topic might be helpful. Happy holidays!



THE DOCKET /

> [CHECK OUT OUR BETTER HEALTH CARE](#)

Video Game Cheat Sheet for Parents

So Your Kids Want a Video Game. Now What?



A large majority (73 percent) of published video games are approved for most ages. Shop knowing what's in the game by using the [ESRB rating app](#).

As entertainment publishers crank out the big video game titles just in time for the holiday shopping season, kids everywhere are hoping that the neatly wrapped gift underneath the tree is the latest release. For eight years running, video games have ranked as the third most requested holiday gift item.

But nearly 40 years after their invention, video games are still a mystery to many parents. This month's *You Should Know* is here to save the day by arming parents, grandparents and other family members with a guide to choosing video games wisely for the kids on their shopping lists. [Start here.](#)

BY THE NUMBERS /

10
Worst

Just in time for the holiday season, World Against Toys Causing Harm (W.A.T.C.H.) has released its 2014 nominees for the annual "[10 Worst Toys](#)" list.

89%

According to the top 10 gaming trends of 2014, [89 percent](#) of parents are very involved in monitoring

NEWSLETTER.

> LATEST NEWS FROM OUR PATIENT SAFETY BLOG

> CHILD SAFETY TIPS AND ACCIDENT PREVENTION FROM OUR CHILD PROTECTION BLOG

> MALPRACTICE A-Z: ANSWERS ON SPECIFIC TOPICS

Engage their kids' video game purchases and play.

\$21.5 Billion More than \$21.5 billion was spent on gaming in 2013, including content, accessories and hardware, as shown in statistics from this industry report. [\(PDF\)](#).

BOOKMARK FAVORITES /



Dr. G on Choosing Healthy Games

Yes? No? Maybe? Unsure how to monitor your kids' video game choices and use? Dr. G shares three tips for choosing healthy games and three ways to use them as educational resources. [View video.](#)



Guide to Kids Video Games, Ages 7 to 11

[FunDrop](#) is an E-rated video game rental service for kids. The company's YouTube channel features a four-part series that first walks parents through selecting the right game console, then advises them on game choices. [View videos.](#)



Review Quality Video Games in Action

[LearningWorks for Kids](#) was founded on the premise that video games can be a powerful tool (when used responsibly) for the intellectual, emotional and academic development of children and young adults. These videos present video games that demonstrate these principles. [View video page.](#)



And the Survey Says ...

Readers had a lot to say about *You Should Know* (most of it good), and one of you is a winner of an iPod Mini just in time for the holidays!

[See results](#)



Toy Experts on Video Games

Stevanne Auerbach, known as "Dr. Toy," and Randy Kulman, founder of LearningWorks for Kids, explore the pros and cons of video games for kids.

[Listen now](#)

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