

migrant
literacies



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Parenting in digital times.

by Mediawijs

Adult migrants are often also parents. And like all other parents, they rarely understand why their children find vlogs and video games so attractive. So we took them on a journey of commonly used Apps and social media. In our workshop the students practiced different digital skills through questions, activities and challenges and they came up with ideas for rules about screen time in their home.





GENERAL DESCRIPTION

SHORT SUMMARY	This workshops provides insight into the media use of children. Moreover, guidelines for parents are provided to understand and regulate the media use of their children. The most important online activities of children are also discussed.
TARGET GROUP	Size: N/A Age: adults Literacy level: A2 Digital literacy level: intermediate, use of tablets
TIME	6 hours
FORM	Inclusion in the regular classes.
SPACE	Classroom with tables, video projector, paper and pencils.
TOPICS COVERED	Children and media use, education.
TOOLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tablets• WIFI
OBJECTIVES	Understanding the media use of their children and giving guidelines in how people can educate their children in media use. Inform (grand)parents in how to guide the media use of their (grand)children.
LINGUISTIC SKILLS	Reading skills, listening skills, speaking skills and social skills.
DIGITAL/ MEDIA LITERACY REFERENCE	Exploring new media channels, gaining knowledge in how to use these channels and why their children are using these channels.

STEP BY STEP DESCRIPTION

STEP 1

Time

20 min.

Objective

Giving a short introduction into media parenting by asking them about their children's media use.

Material

- Blackboard

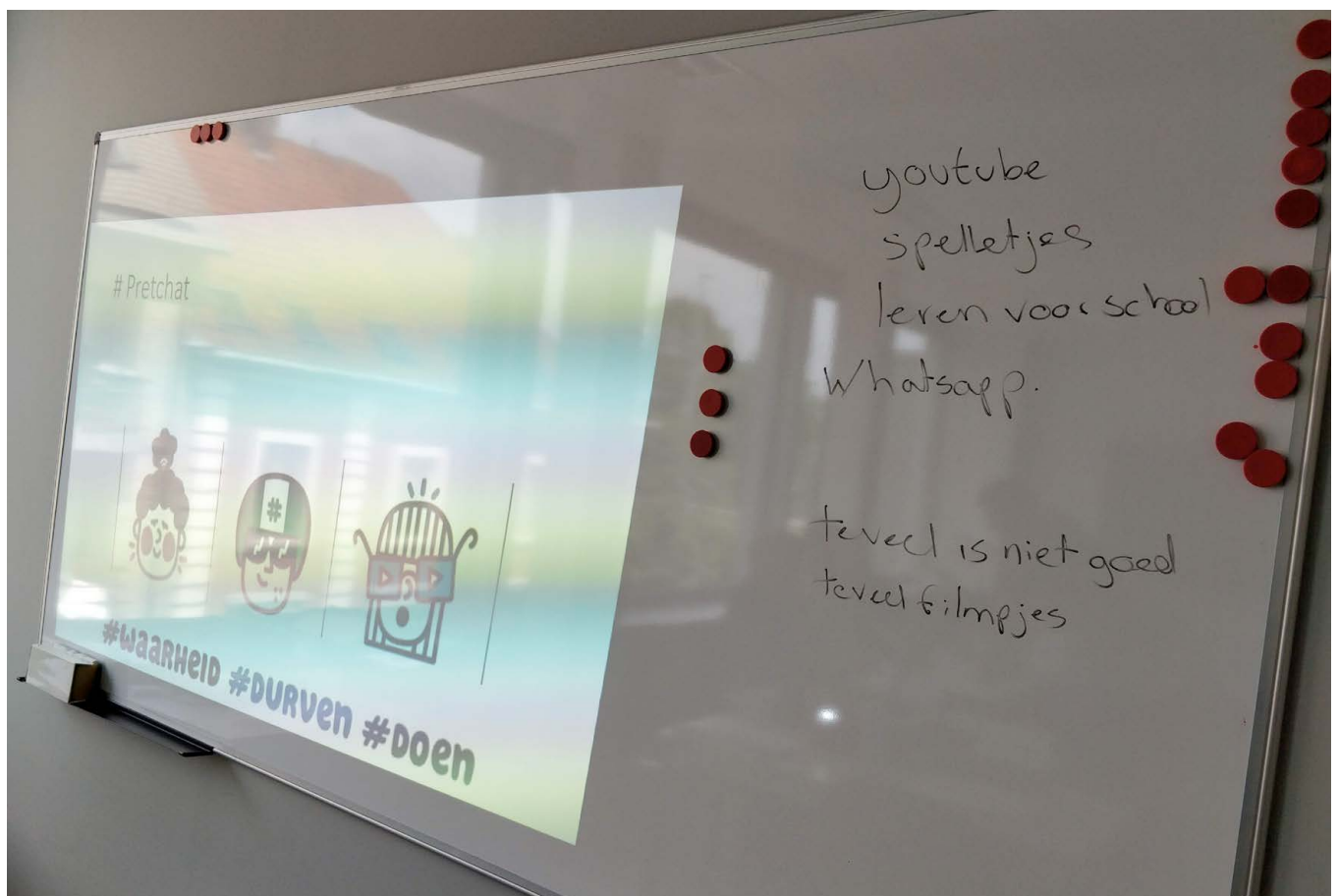
Literacy skills

To improve social skills, learn new vocabulary, linguistic comprehension skills.

Activity description

Introduction:

- Interact with the group by asking them questions:
 - do you have children?
 - how old are they?
 - do your children have a smartphone or tablet?
 - do they play (online) games?
- Order the answers on the blackboard (in total we have X children, X toddlers and Y teens, ...).
- Then explain that you are going to talk about "parenting in digital times" and that you'll explain to them why the kids are so attracted to this, and that you'll find some tips and tricks to cope with these manners at the end of the day.



STEP 2

Time

30 min.

Objective

Having a discussion on what children are doing online + giving insight in it.

Material

- Presentation
- Projector
- Mentimeter (www.mentimeter.com)
- Tablets / smartphones to fill in the Mentimeter

Literacy skills

To improve social skills, learn new vocabulary, linguistic comprehension and writing skills, basic ICT skills.

Activity description

What are they doing online?

- First, make a statement: "these youngsters, all they do is using their phones."
Ask if they think it is true or not?
(raising fingers)
- Then explain that smartphones and tablets are tools that can be used for a lot:
 - search for information
 - find entertainment
 - communicate with others
 - create content
- Divide the group in smaller groups (3-4 people) and ask them to tell one another: what are your kids doing with their devices?
- Let them enter their top 5 answers in a Mentimeter.
- Show the answers in a word cloud on the screen. If something is not clear, ask to explain.
- Probably the answers are similar to research on all children (e.g. www.eukidsonline.net). Show this and discuss shortly.



STEP 3

Time

20 min.

Objective

Explaining that children do different things online and according to their online behavior they match a different media profile.

Activity description

How do children cope with digital media?

- Ask them if they encounter difficulties at home? Are their kids using digital media (too) much?
- Show the different media profiles (en.mediawijs.be/nieuws/10-media-profiles): not every kid is tech savvy, not every kid is as attracted to social media as others...
- Can they categorize their children in one of the media profiles?

Material

- Presentation
- Projector

Literacy skills

Linguistic comprehension skills, listening skills.

STEP 4

Time

20 min.

Objective

Test the knowledge of Apps

Material

- Projector
- Paper and pencils

Literacy skills

Linguistic comprehension skills, reading skills, vocabulary skills, speaking skills, basic digital skills.

Activity description

The App bingo

- Do a little quiz to find out how many Apps, which children are using, are known by the parents. Test their knowledge with an App bingo, include all the important social media Apps.
- First tell them the purpose of the Apps, then let them cross all the Apps they know. The person who knows the most Apps wins the bingo.
- Search which App is most famous around the parents and ask them to orally explain the purpose of the App.

STEP 5

Time

60 min.

Objective

Let the students explore what children's and young people are doing online, leaving space for discussing it, while using basic digital skills.

Material

- Tablets
- Computers

Literacy skills

Linguistic comprehension skills, reading skills, vocabulary skills, speaking skills, basic digital skills.

Activity description

Explore it online

- Let them form groups of 2 people and tell them to explore some Apps or websites on the tablet or on a computer.
- Provide for each App / websites some specific questions they need to answer.

• E.g. <https://www.twitch.tv/>

After they explored the website ask them:

- what happens on this website?
- can you play games on this website?

Explain that this site is used by children to watch how other people play games. They watch are people playing games to get better themselves. The best players even earn money when people are looking at them playing the game

• E.g. <https://www.tiktok.com/>

Let them watch several videos on this site and explain that it is all about posting videos and receiving likes and comments from each other.

• E.g. Instagram stories

• E.g. Snapchat

• E.g. different popular vlogs on YouTube

• E.g. children's Apps such as www.ketnet.be

• E.g. Fortnite

STEP 8

Time

30 min.

Objective

Understand the need of rules adapted to the ages of the child.

Material

- Growth line
- Pictures of children's rooms
- Blackboard

Literacy skills

Linguistic comprehension skill, reading skill.

Activity description

The growth line

- Refer to the previous exercise, not every App is suitable for every age.
- Write age categories on the blackboard (0-3y, 4-6y, ...) and ask them to put the Apps from the previous exercise in the different categories.
- Then hand out pictures from children's rooms and let them put these in the age categories as well.
- Let them come up with rules for each age category (can be general parenting rules as well)
- Take the growth line (<https://www.medianest.be/mediagroeilijn>), read out some evolutions and explain it is not easy to divide all things in age categories, there is a growth line. Explain how rules need to evolve when children evolve.

STEP 6

Time

120 min.

Objective

By playing the game 'Pretchat' parents will discover some extra ICT tools and Apps, will talk about the difficulties of parenting in digital times and will hear of rules that are used in other homes.

Material

- The game Pretchat

Literacy skills

Linguistic comprehension skill, reading skill, speaking skill, social skill.

Activity description

Truth or dare

- We used Pretchat (<https://www.medianest.be/prechat>), a variation on Truth or Dare with questions, activities and challenges. It is used as a conversation starter to talk about rules about media in homes.
- Some cards:
 - what is the most annoying habit of your kid with his smartphone?
 - what is the cat on Instagram with the most followers?
 - what is the best rule at your home you want to share with the others?
 - depict of the PEGI icons.
- Pick out the cards you definitely want to use (leave some others out), make 3 piles of the gamecards according to their color.
- Lets' play: let every participant choose a card, let him answer or do the activity in group. Afterwards you ask some follow-up questions and let them discuss this in group.

STEP 7

Time

30 min.

Objective

Learning how to guide the media use of their children without prohibiting it.

Material

- Google doc
- Projector
- Printer

Literacy skills

Linguistic comprehension skill, listening skills, basic digital literacy skill.

Activity description

Setting out the rules

- Now that the parents know what their children are doing online, tips can be given to regulate the media use of their children online.
- Refer to the previous exercise: what are the rules and habits that already exist according to the media use of their children.
- If this didn't come up yet, ask further questions:
 - when does your child spend time online?
 - how long? - where?
 - through different screens?
- Try to find a great set of rules. Type all rules in a document. Also rules that are contradictory (e.g. some parents say children must finish their homework before they can watch tv, others say that children can have some leisure time before the homework)
- Print out the set of rules and distribute it to the students. Let them mark the rules they want to use at home.

STEP 8

Time

30 min.

Objective

Leaving the participants leave with some last concrete tips.

Material

- Presentation
- Projector

Literacy skills

Linguistic comprehension skill, listening skills, basic digital literacy skill.

Activity description

Tips and tricks

- Introduce some tools and tips
- E.g. the use of YouTube kids
- E.g. passwords
- E.g. www.medianest.be
- E.g. the advantages of children's Apps (e.g. Ketnet App)