

STOP YOUR CHILD TURNING INTO A COMPUTER JUNKIE

It's a warm summer's day in the school holidays but the children are not out playing, they are in a darkened room, glued to the TV set, zapping aliens on their Nintendos or surfing the Internet.

As their friends ride their bikes, go swimming, play football and walk the dog, the only games your children play are those on the computer, and their only pet is the mouse.

For thousands of children the computer and the TV now dominate their lives, turning them into electronic junkies with virtual childhoods where real relationships are replaced by artificial ones...

Many children, too, begin their viewing early and finish late. Programmes designed to entertain young viewers begin in the early morning, so parents may still be in bed when their children are already up and channel hopping. According to an American study for the U.S. National Institute of Education, ten hours TV watching a week is a healthy level and any more than that results in under performance at school and an unhealthy lifestyle.

Now, with the number of junior junkies growing dramatically, comes the first book aimed at weaning kids off their electronic addiction through a rigorous four-week programme.

Joan Anderson, author of *Getting Unplugged* (John Wiley, £4.99), says that children who watch too much television from an early age have difficulty concentrating, do less well at school, are less active and find it difficult to form relationships because they spend so much of their time in an imaginary world.

by Alex Murray - Western Daily Press - Monday, July 13, 1998

Lexique :

to entertain : distraire

according to : selon, d'après

COMPREHENSION BEP CAP

1. Retrouvez dans le texte les équivalents anglais des expressions suivantes. 2 pts 2 pts

a. un drogué de l'informatique :

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b. passant d'une chaîne à l'autre

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c. collés au téléviseur

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d. sevrer les enfants de leur dépendance électronique

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BEP CAP

2. Dites si les phrases suivantes sont vraies ou fausses et justifiez votre choix en citant le texte (toute réponse non justifiée sera considérée comme nulle). Vrai Faux 5 pts 5 pts

a. Few children are interested in computers and television.

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- b. Children should watch TV less than 11 hours a week.
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- c. A four-week programme can help parents to fight against the power of computers over their children.
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- d. Joan Anderson is a child who loves watching TV.
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- e. Young children who watch TV too much have good results at school.

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BEP CAP

3. Répondez en anglais aux questions suivantes et faites des phrases complètes. 4,5 pts 6 pts
- a. According to Alex Murray, what can children do instead of playing on their computers and watching TV ?

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- b. Is the mouse (§. 2) a real pet ?

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- c. What are the dangers of spending too much time in front of the TV ? (give 3 dangers)

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COMPETENCE LINGUISTIQUE : BEP CAP

4. Recopiez les phrases ci-dessous en mettant le verbe à la forme qui convient. 1,5 pt 3 pt

- a. My parents (not have) a computer at home when they were children.

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- b. His parents (give) him a Nintendo for his birthday next week.

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- c. Why don't you do your homework before (watch) the film ?

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BEP CAP

5. Complétez les phrases suivantes en choisissant parmi : His – their – its – her – our – my – your. 2 pts 2 pts

- a. My cousins like to play with _____ computer.

- b. Nobody can use this computer because _____ mouse is broken.

- c. My sister and _____ boyfriend like to watch TV.

- d. We bought _____ new computer at the supermarket.

BEP CAP

6. Traduisez le titre de l'article. 1 pt 2 pts

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EXPRESSION ECRITE : BEP --

7. Un journaliste interroge un jeune anglais sur l'utilisation qu'il fait de l'ordinateur et de la télévision. Retrouvez les questions posées à partir des réponses du jeune homme. 4 pts

a-
I've got 3 TV sets at home.

b-
I spend two hours a day watching TV.

c -
My favourite programme is "Friends".

d -
Yes, I have a computer.

e-
I got it for Christmas.

f-
I play games.

g-
No, I also use it to do my homework.

h-
Yes, many of my friends have a computer.

CORRIGE COMPREHENSION

1. (0,5 pt par réponse)

a. a computer junkie - b. channel hopping - c. glued to the TV set - d. weaning kids off their electronic addiction

2. (1 pt par réponse)

a. WRONG – For thousands of children the computer and TV now dominate their lives.

b. RIGHT – Ten hours TV watching a week is a healthy level.

c. RIGHT – Now... comes the first book aimed at weaning kids off their electronic addiction through a rigorous four-week programme.

d. WRONG – Author of Getting Unplugged.

e. WRONG – Children who watch too much TV do less well at school.

3.

a. Children can be out playing, ride their bikes, go swimming, play football and walk the dog.

b. No, it is the mouse of the computer.

c. They do less well at school – they have difficulties concentrating – they are less active and find it difficult to form relationships.

COMPETENCE LINGUISTIQUE

4. (BEP = 1 pt par réponse ; CAP = 0,5 pt par réponse)

a. didn't have - b. will give - c. watching

5. (0,5 pt par réponse)

a. their - b. its - c. her - d. our

6. Empêchez votre enfant de devenir un drogué d'informatique

EXPRESSION (0,5 pt par énoncé correct)

a - Have you got a TV set at home ? (How many TV sets do you have ?)

b - How many hours a day do you spend watching TV ?

- c - What's your favourite programme ?
- d - Do you have a computer ?
- e - When did you get it ?
- f - What do you do with it ?
- g - Do you only use it to play games ?
- h - Do your friends have a computer/computers ?