

Pokemon Go is the next big thing

12th July, 2016



image - www.pokemon.com

The Japanese games giant Nintendo has released an app that is taking the world by storm. The next big thing, and new Internet sensation, is an augmented reality game called Pokemon Go. Players must physically move around the real world in order to capture mystical creatures called Pokemon (short for pocket monsters). It was only officially released last week, in the USA, New Zealand and Australia. It is about to overtake Twitter in the number of daily active users and it hasn't even been launched globally yet. Analysts report that in just 48 hours, Go was installed on 5.6 per cent of all Android devices in the USA. On average, users are spending twice as much time on Go than on apps like Snapchat.

Pokemon Go has already jumped to the top of the App Store and Google Play Store. It is also having an unprecedented social impact. Hackers have targeted illegal copies of the app to infect millions of smart phones. Other criminals have used the game to lure unsuspecting players to go to a location to collect a Pokemon character and then rob them or burgle their empty house. The app tracks your location via GPS as you walk around looking for Pokemon. The website PCmag.com advised: "Don't go walking around neighborhoods late at night for your Pokemon fix....If you can collect Pokemon...in public, crowded areas, we recommend doing that instead of shady spots at two a.m."

Sources: *Forbes.com / theVerge.com / uk.pcmag.com*

Writing

Games and apps that give away your location are dangerous. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

games / giant / storm / the next big thing / creatures / globally / devices / average / jumped / app store / social impact / millions / smart phones / players / location / GPS

True / False

- Nintendo has a new game called The Next Big Thing. T / F
- In the new Nintendo game, players must survive a storm. T / F
- In the new Nintendo game, players physically go from place to place. T / F
- The game was on over 5% of Android devices in the US within 48 hours. T / F
- The game currently tops the charts in app stores. T / F
- Hackers have used the game to infect millions of smart phones. T / F
- The game can only be played when the GPS on devices is turned off. T / F
- A website advised people to go to shady areas in the early morning. T / F

Synonym Match

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. released | a. extraordinary |
| 2. sensation | b. machines |
| 3. capture | c. surpass |
| 4. overtake | d. leaped |
| 5. devices | e. issued |
| 6. jumped | f. follows |
| 7. unprecedented | g. singled out |
| 8. targeted | h. smash hit |
| 9. tracks | i. advise |
| 10. recommend | j. catch |

Discussion – Student A

- What social impact have apps had?
- How much do you worry about your phone being hacked?
- What can we do to prevent our phones from being infected?
- What is the attraction of Pokemon Go?
- What are the good and bad things about GPS tracking?
- What do you think of the advice from PCmag.com?
- Do you ever download things illegally?
- What questions would you like to ask the boss of Nintendo?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. an app that is taking the world | a. of the app |
| 2. mystical | b. social impact |
| 3. it hasn't even been | c. as much time on Go |
| 4. Go was installed on 5.6 per cent of | d. crowded areas |
| 5. users are spending twice | e. creatures |
| 6. It is also having an unprecedented | f. by storm |
| 7. Hackers have targeted illegal copies | g. your location |
| 8. infect millions | h. all Android devices |
| 9. The app tracks | i. of smart phones |
| 10. collect Pokemon in public, | j. launched globally yet |

Discussion – Student B

- What's your favourite app and why?
- What do you think of video games?
- What do you know about Pokemon?
- What do you think about what you read?
- What is augmented reality?
- Why is Pokemon so successful?
- What do you think of games with imaginary characters?
- What would your life be like without apps?

Spelling

- Nintendo has eelsdera an app
- an unamedteg reality game
- capture mystical rcuteaesr called Pokemon
- fliycofial released last week
- dhaclune globally
- Android escdevi
- having an etpnreuedcend social impact
- lure unnctugssepi players
- lebugr their empty house
- walking around gohuoirsoendhb (UK) / ooihgdnshebor (UK) late at night
- we ermdeoncm doing that instead
- ashyd spots at two a.m.

Answers – Synonym Match

1. e	2. h	3. j	4. c	5. b
6. d	7. a	8. g	9. f	10. i

Role Play

Role A – Board games

You think board games are best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their games. Also, tell the others which of these is the most boring (and why): card games, park games or computer games.

Role B – Card games

You think card games are best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their games. Also, tell the others which of these is the most boring (and why): board games, park games or computer games.

Role C – Park games

You think park games are best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their games. Also, tell the others which of these is the most boring (and why): card games, board games or computer games.

Role D – Computer games

You think computer games are best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their games. Also, tell the others which of these is the most boring (and why): card games, park games or board games.

Speaking – Games

Rank these with your partner. Put the best games at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| • Park games | • Car racing video games |
| • Fantasy games | • Shoot 'em up games |
| • Sports games | • Board games |
| • Games on apps | • Card games |

Answers – True False

a	F	b	F	c	T	d	T	e	T	f	T	g	F	h	F
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.