



## ***Minecraft: Education Edition* Fact Sheet** **May 2017**

### **What It Is:**

---

*Minecraft: Education Edition* is a version of the popular open world game, Minecraft, specifically designed for education. Available now for free trial and purchase by educators around the world, it contains features that make Minecraft more accessible in a classroom setting.

*Minecraft: Education Edition* continues to be shaped by feedback from more than 120,000 students and educators around the world, with new features that the community told us are valuable for enhancing the learning experience.

The open world format of Minecraft is one that naturally promotes creativity, collaboration, and problem solving – skills that are vitally important to educators as well.

Minecraft is already being used in more than 100 countries around the world for teaching and learning history, physics, science, art, poetry, digital citizenship and more. The possibilities in Minecraft are endless.

### ***Minecraft: Education Edition* Features:**

---

*Minecraft: Education Edition* includes the following features that our community told us are important for enhancing the learning environment:

- **NEW! Code Builder for *Minecraft: Education Edition*** – Code Builder is a new extension that allows educators and students to write code to explore, create and play in full 3D Minecraft worlds.
- **UPDATED! Classroom Mode** – Classroom Mode is a companion app for *Minecraft: Education Edition* that shows a map view of the *Minecraft* world, a list of all the students in the world, the ability for a teacher to teleport students and a chat window to communicate with students and grant resources. Classroom Mode allows educators to collaborate with students from outside the game world.
- **UPDATED! Tutorial World:** For educators or students new to *Minecraft*, a tutorial world is available that will guide players on in-game navigation, crafting, and placing and breaking blocks. The tutorial world is now updated to include new features and blocks.
- **Easy Classroom Collaboration:** Educators have told us that one of the greatest benefits of *Minecraft: Education Edition* is the ability for students to collaborate together to build projects and solve problems. An entire classroom of up to 30 students can play in a world together with no separate server setup required. Or, students can work together in pairs or groups simply by joining their classmates' worlds.
- **Non-Player Characters:** An educator may create an NPC (Non-Player Character) to act as a guide for students in the game, giving instruction, providing more information, and also allowing educators to insert an active web link to additional references.

- **Camera + Portfolio:** These two features allow players to collect evidence of learning in the game, and to demonstrate their progression. The camera and portfolio features allows students to take screenshots of their work and document the development of their projects.
- **Chalkboards:** Creators can use chalkboards to communicate learning goals, provide additional information and give explicit instructions within the game. Chalkboards come in three different sizes – Slate (1x1), Poster (2x1), and Board (2x3).
- **Simple, Secure Sign-in:** Individual student and teacher logins with Office 365 Education accounts ensure data privacy & security while playing *Minecraft: Education Edition*.
- **New Minecraft game features** – We’re continuing to update *Minecraft: Education Edition* to include new game features from other editions of *Minecraft*. All the latest updates to *Minecraft: Windows 10 Edition* beta will be included, such as an updated user interface, leads and horses, additional player skins, and pistons and the remainder of Redstone functionality.

## The Details:

---

- The full version of *Minecraft: Education Edition* is now available for purchase by schools, colleges and universities for \$5 per user, per year. Organization-wide discounts may be available through Microsoft education volume licensing.
- To start using *Minecraft: Education Edition*,
  - Upgrade your computer to [Windows 10](#) or [macOS](#)
  - [Sign up](#) for a free Office 365 Education account using your school or district email
  - Download [Minecraft: Education Edition](#) and start playing!
- For more information and resources on *Minecraft: Education Edition*, including lesson plans and a new *Minecraft Mentors* program, please visit [education.minecraft.net](http://education.minecraft.net).

## Boilerplates:

---

### **Minecraft**

*Minecraft* is a game about placing blocks and going on adventures. Explore randomly-generated worlds and build amazing things from the simplest of homes to the grandest of castles. Play in Creative Mode with unlimited resources or mine deep in Survival Mode, crafting tools and armor to fend off dangerous mobs. Do all this alone or with friends. *Minecraft* is available on Windows, macOS, Windows Phone, iOS, Android, Amazon Kindle Fire, Xbox 360, Xbox One, PS3, PS4, PS Vita, Wii U, Apple TV, Oculus Rift and Gear VR.

### **Mojang**

Mojang is a game development studio based in Sweden, best known for developing *Minecraft*. In 2014, Mojang joined Microsoft Studios to continue work on *Minecraft* and bring their vision, creative energy and innovative mindset to the development of future games.

### **Microsoft**

Microsoft (Nasdaq “MSFT” @microsoft) is the leading platform and productivity company for the mobile-first, cloud-first world, and its mission is to empower every person and every organization on the planet to achieve more.

### **For more information, press only:**

- [mckenzie.gardner@assemblyinc.com](mailto:mckenzie.gardner@assemblyinc.com)