



Bobkitten School Counseling

Grades Pk-1

January 21, 2022

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

As a school counselor, it is my job to communicate information to all stakeholders in the best interest of all children. Therefore, I felt it necessary to share this message to all parents/caregivers.

There is another video game character out that we should be aware of, called "Huggy Wuggy". It sounds harmless, maybe even similar to a cuddly cartoon character. After doing a little research, it was discovered that "Huggy Wuggy" is in fact, a video game character from the game "Poppy Playtime", a video game in the horror genre. This article (link below) does a nice job of describing the game and why it is not suitable for young children. Especially important to read is the "What are the Risks" section of the article. With a name like "Huggy Wuggy", many can be deceived into believing that this is a safe game for children.

As the school counselor, I believe play that involves social skills such as body language, patience, taking turns, listening, perseverance, etc. are all learned and reinforced through personal interactions. These things just cannot be learned through a video game, no matter how "safe" it is. Video games fire up the neurons in the brain to a degree that is so much higher than other activities. This makes them addicting. Using screen time as a reward might seem like a way to motivate your child. Unfortunately, this just puts more emphasis on technology.

The intention of this communication is to provide you with information so you can set appropriate limits or have conversations with children who appear to be watching this.

Online review

<https://ineqe.com/2021/12/03/poppy-playtime-online-safety-review/>