

# Play Gaming Goldrush stations and scenarios - leaders

Print a copy and cut out each card.

## Station 1: In game purchases

You've just completed a big mission in your favourite game, and now there's an offer to buy an extra life for your character. The extra life costs £5 (5 game coins), and you have 7 game coins left that you earned by completing challenges. Should you buy it?

Questions:

- How much would those 5 game coins cost in real money?

Answer: They'd cost £5. Even though they're called game coins, they could be bought with real money - so spending them is like spending cash.

- Could this lead you to spend more money than intended? How?

Answer: Yes. Buying small items in-game can become a habit. You might start spending without realising how much it adds up, especially if the coins don't feel like real money.

Reward: If you can answer correctly, you earn 10 game tokens!

## **Station 2: Hacking and scams**

A message pops up on your screen offering a free download to get extra game coins. You click on it, and it asks for your login details.

Questions:

- What could happen if you give away your login details?

Answer: Someone could hack your account, spend your money, steal your progress, or even use your account to scam your friends.

- How can you tell if an offer is a scam?

Answer: Real offers won't ask for your password, login information, or bank details. If something sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Always check with a trusted adult before clicking or sharing your details.

Reward: If you can answer correctly, you earn 15 game tokens!

### **Station 3: Subscription services**

You sign up for a 'free trial' of a gaming subscription service. After a month, £10 is taken from your account, but you didn't even realise the trial had ended.

Questions:

- How can you avoid unexpected charges like this?

Answer: Always read the terms and conditions before signing up. Set a reminder to cancel the trial before it ends if you don't want to keep it.

- What should you do if you didn't mean to subscribe?

Answer: Contact the company right away to cancel the subscription. Ask if you can get a refund, especially if you didn't use the service.

Reward: If you can answer correctly, you earn 20 game tokens!

## **Station 4: Unplanned spending**

You're playing a game and get really excited, so you buy a pack for £7.99. Later, you realise you accidentally bought three more packs without meaning to!

Questions:

- What can you do to avoid overspending in games?

Answer: Set a spending limit before you play. Talk to a parent or carer about setting up a budget and use tools, such as password protection or purchase limits, to stop accidental spending.

- What could be the long-term impact of spending more than you planned?

Answer: You could run out of money, get into debt, or end up in trouble with your parents or carers for spending money without permission, especially if it's linked to their bank card.

Reward: If you can answer correctly, you earn 25 game tokens!

## **Station 5: Digital currency risks**

You buy 500 in-game coins for £4.99. But just as you're about to spend them, the game updates. Now those coins are only worth half as much!

Questions:

- How can you protect yourself from losing the value of virtual money?

Answer: Be careful when buying in-game currency. Make sure the game is well-reviewed and trustworthy. Know that updates can change the value of virtual items, so there's always a risk.

- What should you do before purchasing in-game currency?

Answer: Do some research, check the game's reviews and see if other players trust it. Talk to a parent or carer about whether it's really worth spending your money.

Reward: If you can answer correctly, you earn 30 game tokens!