The Positive Effects of Technology on Kids Children

1   Children today are engrossed in technology. Everywhere they turn technology is a prominent part of their lives. For kids today, envisioning a life without technical gadgets and toys is probably like older generations imagining colonial times; it's sometimes difficult to relate to such a time.

2   For kids today it is hard for them to imagine life without computers, the Internet, cell phones, microwaves, video games and the plethora of other electronic devices we routinely use nowadays. Today these devices are taken for granted by most people, especially children.

3   While it's true there are some drawbacks to children being so acclimated to technology, innovation equates to progress and this progress has had many positive effects on children. Either way, society has to adapt to the fact technology is a staple in life and this is not likely to change any time soon. If anything, technology will continue to progress and become even more immersed in daily living.

4   Technology's positive effects on children are vast and long reaching.

• Advantages of computer software

5   The many different types of computer software are great learning tools and visual aids for kids to absorb information. There are many educational games and other learning materials which children can have fun and learn at the same time to expand developmental learning and express creativity.

6   While it's true some games are mindless, at least the development of hand/eye coordination can help compensate for the lack of education in those games.

• Learn empowerment and autonomy

7   Computers and other kinds of technology allow kids levels of autonomy where they receive a sense of empowerment because of the information available at their disposal.

8   Between calculators, word processing, spreadsheets, slide shows, search engines, online dictionaries, thesauruses, encyclopedias and other resources, kids have plenty of tools to

help them solve problems or create projects for school.

• Benefits of video games

9   While too much gaming is probably unhealthy, some video gaming is probably beneficial to kids. In addition to the aforementioned motor skill development with hand/eye coordination, interactive video games encourage kids to collaborate and take turns.

• Entertainment

10 Let's face it, children enjoy technology because it provides numerous forms of entertainment. iPods, MP3 players, video games, cell phone games, Internet games…again too much is probably bad, but in moderation, these things provide a variety of things for kids to do.

• Critical thinking

11 Many interactive games encourage strategic and critical thinking, which helps kids grow intellectually. This kind of thinking can lead to innovative ideas and stretch their minds. While some games are mindless, many games are designed to encourage thinking.

12 In order for children to reap the benefits and positive effects of technology, what it comes down to is moderation and balance. Parents who allow their children to maximize and absorb the benefits of technology and effectively minimize exposure to the drawbacks, will teach their kids the value which can be derived from technology.

13 While there is perhaps some validity to the argument that technology 'dumbs people down', this should not occur unless we allow it to. As long as technology isn't used as a constant replacement for problems solving, it can enhance and encourage thinking.

14 Additionally, where kids are concerned, as long as technology isn't used as a babysitter, kids can enjoy the best of both worlds.