

Avatars

An avatar is character created to represent oneself in the virtual world. Avatars are often used in gaming, web forums and other virtual communication platforms. Have you ever played the Nintendo Wii where you used a Mii? If so, then you have used an avatar! Avatar creation is a great way for girls to show their creativity while encouraging online safety at the same time.

Following are some online resources for creating avatars. Please note, the following information is being provided for informational purposes only; it does not constitute an endorsement by GSHPA.



VOKI:

- <https://www.voki.com/>
- A site recommended for teachers by Scholastic
- Plans and prices currently range from the Basic Package for free up to a Level 3 package for \$9.99 a month or \$99 for the year.
- Compare the various plans and pricing structure at <https://www.voki.com/site/pricing>.
- VOKI is currently offering a free 15-day trial on all plans.

Second Life:

- <https://secondlife.com/>
- Used by many universities
- Minimum user age of 13 yrs. old
- Discount for non-profits

LoomieLive:

- <https://loomai.com/loomielive>
- Free platform that provides users the ability to create a personal avatar to use in conjunction with video-conferencing services such as Zoom, Microsoft Meeting, Skype and Google Hangouts.

Minecraft:

- Minecraft is a virtual game that allows you to connect with friends and create virtual worlds. It's also something that many of your high school and even elementary students will already have access too.



- To create a Minecraft graduation, you'll need to have access to the game. It is available on computers, mobile devices, consoles, etc. Getting Minecraft on to your technology will cost about \$19.99.
- After the game is downloaded to your technology, you can either create your own server or you might contact an administrator of another server to actually hold your ceremony. If several of the kids are already participating in a particular server, leaders probably want to consider this option. Once you are all ready, you might want to enlist the help of your kids to create the virtual arena.
- From site <https://teens.lovetoknow.com/graduation-ideas/how-hold-virtual-graduation-ceremony>

Additional Resources:

- 6 Great Avatar Generator Websites Kids Will Love: <http://www.educational-freeware.com/news/avatars.aspx>
- Digital You: Tech Tools to Help You Create Amazing Avatars for the Online Classroom: <https://www.codlearningtech.org/2018/03/01/digital-you-tech-tools-to-help-you-create-amazing-avatars-for-the-online-classroom/>
- Tools to Help Kids Create an Avatar: <https://www.scholastic.com/parents/school-success/learning-toolkit-blog/tools-to-help-kids-create-avatar.html>