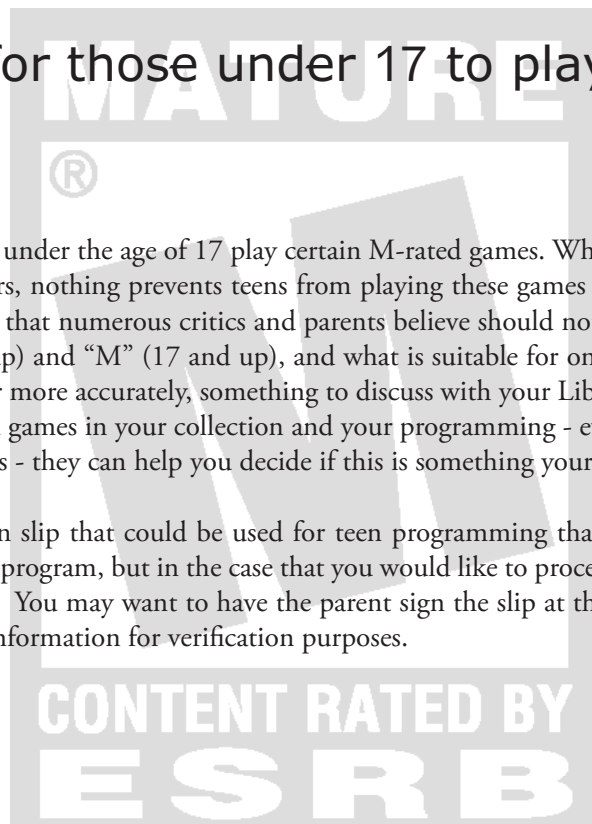


Permission slip for those under 17 to play M-rated games



Some groups like to let users under the age of 17 play certain M-rated games. While it is not permitted for stores to sell M-rated games to underage customers, nothing prevents teens from playing these games and many do so with the approval of their parents. *Halo* is one such game that numerous critics and parents believe should not be rated M; unfortunately, there is a four-year gap between “T” (13 and up) and “M” (17 and up), and what is suitable for one 13-year-old may not be suitable for his or her friend. It is your choice (or more accurately, something to discuss with your Library Director, your board, your teens, and their parents) to include M-rated games in your collection and your programming - even those that include teens. Consult our listed resources on M-rated games - they can help you decide if this is something your library should pursue.

Below is a sample permission slip that could be used for teen programming that includes M-rated games. There are various merits and demerits of such a program, but in the case that you would like to proceed, this type of slip could be provided online or to teens when they register. You may want to have the parent sign the slip at the library to cut down on forgeries, or modify the form to include contact information for verification purposes.

Hyrule Public Library
Halifax, Nova Scotia

Gaming triathlon tournament
March 10th, 2010, 7:00-10:00pm

Dear parent/guardian: during our gaming night program, we will have one Xbox 360 set up with *Halo 3* available for open play in a separate room from the tournament. This game is rated ‘Mature’ by the ESRB and recommended for users 17 and older. Participants under 17 will need parental permission to play the game, which takes place in a futuristic, science-fiction setting. Game play consists of shooting at space aliens. This game is being provided as an alternative for players who have been eliminated from the tournament.

If you have any questions about our program or *Halo 3*’s appropriateness for your child, please call (902) 555-1111.

I, _____ (parent’s name), grant permission for my son/daughter
_____ (child’s name), to play *Halo 3* during Hyrule Public Library’s gaming night on
March 10th, 2010.

Signature