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I've found five apps designed to fit the different needs of every family to help in monitoring tweens and teens with smartphones:

**Teen Safe:** This app allows parents to view their child's location, calls and texts, as well as monitor activity on social media sites. You can also monitor activity in popular apps such as Whatsapp and Kik, and see your child's web search and browsing history, too. TeenSafe is the motherload when it comes to monitoring. I'm not sure I would want to go this far in monitoring his phone, as I would like to leave room for trust.

**Life 360 for Android:** Are you more concerned with your teens whereabouts than online activity? I don't have an Android but this sounds like a great service for busy families like ours. My son is not much of a texter, so being able to check up on his location if he forgets to call or text would be useful.

**Mama Bear:** Is your teen driving? This app lets you track their speed! It also tracks their social media activity as well as their arrival and departure time to and from their destination. This is a great safety app, and one I will definitely bookmark for those driving years up ahead.

**My Mobile Watchdog:** If you have your eye on Teen Safe, Watchdog is another comprehensive app you may want to consider. It can block websites, find a lost phone, turn off apps during homework time and more.

**Net Nanny:** Is your teen texting all day? With Net Nanny you can set a timer, block websites and mask profanity.