

16 APPS & SITES KIDS ARE HEADING TO AFTER FACEBOOK

Tweens and teens now have endless options literally at their fingertips for expressing their thoughts and feelings to the world. While the latest trends continually change, it's important to know the basics about the apps and sites that are "hot" now. The list below provides the app logo and explains why it's popular. The more you know about each, the better able you are to communicate with your child about responsible online behavior.

Texting



Kik Messenger - Allows users to text for free without any character or message limits.



ooVoo - Free video, voice, and messaging app.



WhatsApp - Allows users to text for free without any character or message limits.

Micro-Blogging



Instagram - Allows users to share photos and videos.



Tumblr - Provides users with a streaming scrapbook of text, photos, videos, and audio clips.



Twitter - Allows users to post "tweets" or messages (limited to 140 characters) and follow other users.



Vine - Allows users to post and watch six-second videos.

Live-Streaming Video



YouNow - Allows users to stream and watch live broadcasts.

Self-Destructing/Secret



Burn Note - Erases text messages after a set period of time.



Snapchat - Allows users to put a time limit on the pictures and videos they send before they "disappear."



Whisper - Allows users to post whatever's on their mind, paired with an image.



Yik Yak - Allows users to post brief comments to the 500 geographically nearest Yik Yak users.

Chatting/Meeting/Dating



MeetMe - Allows users to chat with whoever's online, including local users.



Omegle - Provides users with an anonymous way to chat with strangers via text or video.



Skout - A flirting app that allows users to post to a feed or comment on others' posts or pictures.



Tinder - Allows users to browse pictures of potential matches within a certain-mile radius of the user's location.

To learn why each app is popular and what problems may arise if not used properly, visit [Common Sense Media](#).

COMMUNICATION 101

- Create clear and simple ground rules.
- Explain why you should never give out identifying information (name, address, school name, or telephone number) to people they do not know.
- Discuss with your child the importance of telling a trusted adult about anything that makes them feel scared, uncomfortable, or confused while online.
- Become comfortable online, with apps, and services your children use.
- Become familiar with blocking and monitoring programs.
- If your child uses chat or email, talk to them about never meeting in person with anyone they first "met" online.
- Tell your children to never respond to messages that are suggestive, obscene, belligerent, threatening, or make them feel uncomfortable.
- Report messages that present a danger to local law enforcement.
- Remind your children that people online may not (and likely are not) who they seem, and everything they say may not be true.

Courtesy of: Netsmartz