

## Popular Social Media Apps

**Musical.ly – Your Video Social Network** is a performance- and video-sharing social network that mostly features teens lip-synching to famous songs but also includes some original songwriting and singing. Musers, as devoted users are called, can build up a following among friends or share posts publicly. **Age 13+**

**Instagram** lets users snap, edit, and share photos and 15-second videos, either publicly or within a private network of followers. It unites the most popular features of social media sites: sharing, seeing, and commenting on photos. It also lets you apply fun filters and effects to your photos, making them look high-quality and artistic. **Age 13+**

**Kik Messenger** is an app that lets kids text for free. It's fast and has no message limits, character limits, or fees if you only use the basic features. Because it's an app, the texts won't show up on your kid's phone's messaging service, and you're not charged for them (beyond standard data rates). **Age 17+**

**GroupMe** is an app that doesn't charge fees or have limits for direct and group messages. Users also can send photos, videos, and calendar links.

**Tumblr** is like a cross between a blog and Twitter: It's a streaming scrapbook of text, photos, and/or video and audio clips. Users create and follow short blogs, or "tumblogs," that can be seen by anyone online (if they're made public). Many teens have tumblogs for personal use: sharing photos, videos, musings, and things they find funny with their friends. **Age 13+**

**Snapchat** is a messaging app that lets users put a time limit on the pictures and videos they send before they disappear. Most teens use the app to share goofy or embarrassing photos without the risk of them going public. However, there are lots of opportunities to use it in other ways. **Age 13+**

**Whisper** is a social "confessional" app that allows users to post whatever's on their minds, paired with an image. With all the emotions running through teens, anonymous outlets give them the freedom to share their feelings without fear of judgment. **Age 17+**

**Vine** is a video creation app where all the videos are 6 seconds or less. The videos or "vines" as they are called play in an endless loop. The videos are shared with other Vine users who you follow and can be shared on Facebook or Twitter. **All profiles are**

**public.** There are no options for setting your Vine account to a private setting like you can on Instagram. **Age 13+ App Store Age Recommendation 17+**

## Tips

Check privacy settings

Check age restrictions and recommendations

Discuss and agree on ground rules

Be present in their digital world

Stay informed

Limit device access

Be a good example of how to use social media

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## Resources and Articles

Common Sense Media: [www.commonsensemedia.org](http://www.commonsensemedia.org)

Student Privacy Matters: [www.studentprivacymatters.org/ferpa\\_ppra\\_coppa/](http://www.studentprivacymatters.org/ferpa_ppra_coppa/)

Child Development by Age: <http://centerforparentingeducation.org/library-of-articles/child-development/child-development-by-age/>

Digital Glossary: [www.commonsense.org/education/digital-glossary](http://www.commonsense.org/education/digital-glossary)

The Truth about Research on Screen

Time: [www.dana.org/Briefing\\_Papers/The\\_Truth\\_About\\_Research\\_on\\_Screen\\_Time/](http://www.dana.org/Briefing_Papers/The_Truth_About_Research_on_Screen_Time/)

Kids Need a Digital Diet: [www.newsela.com/read/digital-diet/id/39289/](http://www.newsela.com/read/digital-diet/id/39289/)

American Academy of Pediatrics: Children, Adolescents and

Media: [www.pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/pediatrics/132/5/958.full.pdf](http://www.pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/pediatrics/132/5/958.full.pdf)

Collected Research on ScreenTime and Children: [www.screenfree.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/screentimefs.pdf](http://www.screenfree.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/screentimefs.pdf)

[Research Offers Mixed Messages on Effects of Social Media Use](#)

Wait Until 8th: [www.waituntil8th.org/why-wait/](http://www.waituntil8th.org/why-wait/)

Life As a Teenager Today [www.businessinsider.com/undercover-high-2018-1](http://www.businessinsider.com/undercover-high-2018-1)

“Has the smartphone destroyed a generation”

<https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2017/09/has-the-smartphone-destroyed-a-generation/534198/>