



Cell phone Apps Every Parent Should Know About

The following list of Apps are flagged because of the potential they have to be used inappropriately or because they are dangerous and put your child's safety at risk. This list contains some of the most popular apps used today by adolescents and young adults.

Some students may be using these apps with only good intentions, but they are dangerous because of the risk they may be putting themselves in by using them. Using this list will help you understand why it is important to pay attention to what your child is doing with social media, so you can help keep them safe. Along with the description there are links to sites that also help explain how the app works and what its capabilities are. Finally, there are pictures of the app image so you know what you are looking for on an electronic device. Some apps have slightly different images depending on whether the device is an iPhone or android.

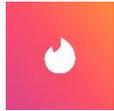
Often parents or guardians struggle with how to monitor their child's activity on social media. Some parents want to know what is going on, while still allowing for some privacy. Added to this list of apps is some information on various cell phone monitoring systems. Some of the systems will allow you to see every picture, text, email and video your child sends or receives. Others will simply show you what apps your child is using, who your child is communicating with, and how long your child is on his or her device. Choose a system that is comfortable to you or that gives you the capability that is warranted by your child. This would be the difference between a system like Pumpic and Qustodio, which have a high level of monitoring, verses Forcefield, which allows for more privacy. This list contains just a few of the many systems available. Often, they come with a free 30 day trial period and then start charging after that expires.

It is also important to note that for every app listed below, there are many more developed that will provide the same capabilities. For example, one of the apps listed is called "Burn Note," which is similar to Snapchat. There are at least fourteen other apps available that operate the same way as Burn Note, and new apps are being developed every day.

So what can you do to keep up? Check to see what apps your child is using and if you see something you do not recognize, look it up! You can also go to the site: www.topappslike.com, to get the most recent list of apps that are like those on this list.

App	Description	iPhone image	Android
<p>Audio Manager AKA: Hide-It Pro</p> <p>Link: https://youtu.be/oLn8MqyvJjU</p>	<p>This has nothing to do with managing music or controlling volume</p> <p>This app is one of the top apps for hiding other apps; it allows people to hide pictures, messages, videos, or other apps they don't want you to see.</p> <p>Open the app, then press and hold the audio manager title and a lock screen is revealed</p>		
<p>Calclator% AKA: Private Photo</p> <p>Link: https://www.facebook.com/153960977990333/videos/884238254962598/</p>	<p>Again this app looks like a calculator and will complete basic computations if opened.</p> <p>The app allows you to hide photos and videos behind the calculator.</p> <p>Open the app and put in a passcode. It will open up a private area that holds the information.</p>		
<p>Snapchat</p>	<p>Many images from Snapchat are regularly posted to revenge porn sites, called "snap porn"</p> <p>These sites can be found on: Ghostcodes</p>		
<p>Burn Note</p>	<p>Like Snapchat, it is a messaging app that erases messages after a set period of time</p> <p>The display system shows only one word at a time, allowing for more privacy</p>		

<p>Line</p> <p>Link: http://official-blog.line.me/en/archives/1006361166.html</p>	<p>Used for chatting, sharing photos and videos, free texting, and video calls</p> <p>Hidden chat feature – letter sealing</p> <p>Contains in-app charges</p>		
<p>Omegle</p> <p>Article: http://www.chicagonow.com/between-us-parents/2014/04/parents-need-to-know-about-the-omegle-app/</p>	<p>Designed to help users meet and chat with random strangers. A person logs on and the app connects them to someone at random.</p> <p>Users ask for personal data upfront including location, age and gender</p>		
<p>Blindr</p>	<p>There are 300 million users that can meet through GPS location services</p> <p>You can message, exchange photos, videos and rate the “hotness” of other users</p>		
<p>KiK Messenger</p> <p>Article: http://www.chicagonow.com/between-us-parents/2013/11/what-parents-need-to-know-about-kik/</p>	<p>Instant messaging app that lets users exchange videos, photos and sketches</p> <p>A KiK buddy is another name for “sext buddy”</p> <p>Kids are giving out their KiK usernames on sites like Reddit to place a classified add for sex</p> <p>KiK does not offer parental controls so there is no way of authenticating usernames. It is easy for sexual predators to use the app</p>		

<p>Yik Yak</p>	<p>Users can post text only “Yaks” that can be viewed by the 500 Yakkers who are closest to the person who wrote the Yak – as determined by the GPS tracking.</p> <p>There is often explicit content (sexual, profanity and personal attacks) being shared that students can be exposed to</p>	<p>*Possibly Shut Down*</p>	
<p>ASK.fm</p> <p>Article: http://www.chicagonow.com/between-us-parents/2013/10/facts-about-ask-fm-parents/</p>	<p>Almost exclusively used by kids. Users can ask questions of each other anonymously – often used as cyberbullying with no chance of getting caught</p> <p>Ask.fm has been associated with 9 documented cases of suicide</p>		
<p>Tinder</p> <p>Article: http://www.chicagonow.com/between-us-parents/2014/01/tinder-app-parents-facts-scary/</p>	<p>The App is used for hooking up and dating</p> <p>Users can rate profiles and find potential hook-ups via GPS location</p> <p>This app is easy for adults and minors to find each other; the rating system causes cyberbullying – groups of kids can target another kid</p>	 	
<p>Whisper</p> <p>Article: http://www.chicagonow.com/between-us-parents/2013/12/what-parents-need-to-know-whisper-app/</p>	<p>An anonymous confession app. Users can superimpose text over a picture to share their thoughts and feelings</p> <p>While you post anonymously, it shows the area you</p>		

	<p>are posting from</p> <p>Users can search posts to within a mile of where the post is coming from</p>		
<p>Down AKA: Bang with Friends</p>	<p>The app is connected with Facebook</p> <p>Users categorize their friends in one of two ways:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) The friend is someone they want to hang with2) The friend is someone they are down with and want to hook up with		

Programs That Can Help Monitor Cellphones



Name	Capabilities	Cost
Pumpic – high level of monitoring	You will have access to all: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in and outbound calls (a call log) • A Location history – the users current GPS location and history • online chats (For example: WhatsApp, Skype, KiK) • contacts • Text Messages • Photos – camera shots and downloaded files • Browser history, bookmarks • Calendar 	\$23.33 per month
Mamabear – high level of monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GPS • Monitor social media – Instagram, Youtube, Twitter, Facebook and Tumblr activity • Uploads and likes • View all incoming and outgoing text messages • Speeding – know when they are driving or riding faster than a speed you program 	FOREVER FREE ACCOUNT 3-MONTH PREMIUM ACCOUNT – \$14.99 6-MONTH PREMIUM ACCOUNT – \$24.99 includes one month free!
Qustodio – high level of monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set filters, time limits and reporting features • Facebook monitoring • Games and app blocking • Location tracking • Panic button – SOS button on child’s phone sends you location • Calls tracking and blocking • Read and block text 	Prices vary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small Families (up to 5 devices) – \$54.95 a year • Medium (up to 10 devices) – \$96.95 a year • Large – up to 15 devices - \$137.95 a year

	<p>messages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 day device usage history 	
Forcefield – allows for more privacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • App downloads – see what apps are on the device • Activity log – see what apps are being used and for how long • Photo report – see what photos are posted on social media • App sleeper – remotely turn off apps and games • Contact log – see who is being communicated with and how often – you CAN NOT see the actual text messages 	Introductory price - \$11.99 a month
Accountable2You -	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily, Weekly and Alerts Only Email Reports – you select frequency; shows activity from previous day(s) and any questionable activity based on detection of words that are deemed to be questionable in nature • Instant text alerts for highly questionable activity • Activity Log – reports activity on all apps and programs • GPS tracking • Time Limit Alerts – you are alerted if device is used during time limit alert hours you have set • Filtering options 	<p>\$6.99 / month for up to 6 devices</p> <p>\$9.99 / month for up to 20 devices</p>