What’s Trending

*When your child is glued to their electronic device, ever wonder what app they’re on? Here’s a list of some trending sites/phone apps to keep you in the know!*

**Youtube** is a video-sharing site and [app](https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/youtube-watch-videos-music-and-live-streams/id544007664?mt=8). There are many videos on YouTube that may not be age-appropriate for kids. Plenty of inappropriate content can surface by typing in the most innocent of search terms, so parents will want to monitor kids' use. Videos here run the gamut, from commercial to educational to music videos to homemade clips. Many kids love YouTube and rely on it as a way of keeping up with popular culture. This is one of the Web's most popular destinations for people of all ages. YouTube does offer parents the ability to filter out objectionable content and comments using Safety Mode. However, Safety Mode doesn't catch everything. There is also a feature that allows you to create a youtube channel, which a lot of students have.

**Kik** is an app-based alternative to standard texting as well as a social networking app for smartphones. With features like video, sketch, bot search, and friend or group code scanning, the app can be used by kids as young as 13 but should really only be used by older teens and adults since it's so easy to connect with strangers.

**Musical.ly** is the world’s largest creative platform. The platform allows any user to make videos and share with friends or with the world. It also has a social network component to it as well. ***You must be 13+ to use the application.***

**Snapchat** is an image messaging and multimedia phone app. It allows users to snap and share picture, make videos to communicate in the moment, and keep up with or follow what's going on with friends and others they choose to follow on the platform. ***You must be 13+ to use the application.***There is a location setting that should be turned off if students are given permission to use the application. There is also a version for younger children called SnapKidz.

**Instagram** is an app that allows users to capture and share the world’s moments. Users can follow their friends and family to see what they’re up to, express themselves by sharing all the moments of their day, including the highlights and everything in between, too. Users can follow accounts from all over the world that are sharing things they might love. It has over 500 million users. Users can post photos, videos, edit pictures, go live (record live video and share), watch videos posted by friends, and send disappearing photos and videos to friends they follow. ***You must be 13+ to use the application.***

**Houseparty**  is an application that allows users to host virtual "house parties". Parties allows users to connect and chat face-to-face in a virtual space. A party can host up to eight (8) users at a time. Users can send messages to one another during the "house party" or opt to participate in only face-to-face conversations. ***There is no minimum age required to use the app.***

[**Kiwi**](https://www.commonsensemedia.org/app-reviews/kiwi-qa) is an app and website lets people ask questions of friends or all users. Posts are tagged with your location (unless you turn it off), so all the kids at one school can be on the app.

[**Sarahah**](https://www.commonsensemedia.org/app-reviews/sarahah) lets you send anonymous comments to friends. Some teens may use it to send anonymous messages with their schoolyard crushes, but more often it's used to transmit all the mean things teens would never say to a friend's face.

[**Live.ly**](https://www.commonsensemedia.org/app-reviews/lively-live-video-streaming) is an app that allows users to watch live videos but are never entirely sure what they're going to see when they open it up.

[**Monkey**](https://www.commonsensemedia.org/app-reviews/monkey-have-fun-chats)-This app randomly connects teens with other Snapchat users around the world for a 10-second video chat. As with so many social networking tools, a teen's experience will depend a lot on other users' behavior.

**Oovoo**- Parents need to know that ooVoo Video Call, Text and Voice is a free app that teens can use to group video chat with up to 12 people, even if they're using different platforms (iPhone, Android, desktop computers, and more). ooVoo users also can send texts and make regular phone calls, including to international numbers (in-app purchase is required). **​The developer's terms indicate people must be 13 or older to use the app. An important privacy and safety note: Unless teens change their account settings to limit or restrict public access, anyone can search for, see, and contact them.**

Source: <https://www.commonsensemedia.org/parent-concerns>