

Common Apps Used by Elementary/Middle/High School students

Instagram

- It's likely that you have heard about it in passing, whether from your child, their friends or in the media. At its most basic, Instagram is a social networking app which allows its users to share pictures and videos with their friends. While its basic premise is the sharing of pictures, the site's popularity comes from its picture-editing functionality. Once a user snaps a picture, Instagram filters – of which there are dozens – can transform images in a manner reminiscent of old-fashioned Polaroid prints.
- Allows users to find and share photos, video, live video, and other media online. Media sharing networks give people and brands a place to find and share media online, including photos, video, and live video. While the majority of posts on relationship networks contain text, posts on networks like Instagram and Snapchat start with an image or video, to which users may decide to add content like captions, mentions of other users, or filters that make you look like a bunny.



Snapchat

- This surprisingly-addictive app gives you the ability to take a picture, add art and text if you'd like, and then send it to recipients for a set amount of time (after which the photo will delete itself and be removed from the company's servers). Lots of fun, and potentially a good way to stay in touch with friends.
- It has become hugely popular in a very short space of time, especially with young people. There is one feature that makes Snapchat different from other forms of texting and photo sharing: the messages disappear from the recipient's phone after a few seconds. *This is also one of the potential dangers for sharing inappropriate content.



TikTok (Formally Musical.ly)

- **Tik Tok is a social media platform for creating, sharing and discovering short music videos, think Karaoke for the digital age!** People use Tik Tok as an outlet to express themselves through singing, dancing, comedy, and lip-syncing. The app allows users to create short videos and share them.
- **Is Tik Tok appropriate for kids?** Because of its emphasis on popular music, many videos include swearing and sexual lyrics, so it may not be age-appropriate for kids to use on their own. It's



also easy to find people wearing revealing clothing and dancing suggestively that you may not be comfortable with as a parent depending on the age of your child.

YouTube

- Allows users to find and share photos, video, live video, and other media online. Media sharing networks give people and brands a place to find and share media online, including photos, video, and live video. Similarly, on sites such as YouTube, video is the primary mode of communication.
- You can put just about anything you want on the YouTube site. You can also watch just about anything on YouTube.



Parent Video Resources:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nYg1dGaNxUo> (Instagram)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ei1zL_Y6uYo (TikTok)

[snapchat explained](#) (Snapchat)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z4gLQ83YQ3E> (Parent testimonial)

www.waituntil8th.org/ (Wait Until 8th Campaign)

[RSD's Technology and Parenting Tips and Tricks](#)