Popular Social Media Apps
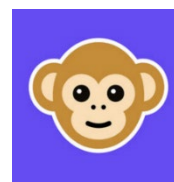
Plenty of Fish is a popular free dating app and website that encourages chatting with strangers. It allows users to browse profiles based on location.	**Hily** is a dating app where users browse photos, engage in chats, send private videos and more. Based on the GPS location of a mobile device, strangers can arrange to meet up locally.	**Zoosk** is a location-based dating app and website similar to many others. The app is available in 80 countries and utilizes a "carousel" feature that matches users with random strangers
Badoo is a dating and social networking app where users chat, share photos and videos and connect based on location. It's tended for adults, but teens are known to create profiles.	**Grindr** is a dating app geared toward the LGBTQ+ community. The app gives users options to chat, share photos and meet up based on a smartphone's GPS location.	**Skout** is a location-based dating app. While users under 17 are unable to share private photos, they can easily create an account using a different age.
Bumble is similar to the popular dating app 'Tinder' however, it requires women to make the first contact. Kids have been known to use Bumble to create fake accounts and falsify their age.	**Tinder** is a popular app for finding people and starting a conversation. The app uses a GPS location tracker to show other Tinder users nearby. The app is mostly used by teens and tweens. Tinder allows users to view other users' photos and start communicating with people they like. Some strangers create fake profiles to lure unsuspecting users to hit a conversation and then meet up.	**Blendr** is akin to Tinder in all manners. It is a flirting app that uses GPS tracking to show nearby users who are also interested in flirting or dating. Just like Tinder, the app can be abused by users who are out there to get personal information from our innocent kids to harm them later.
Whisper is a confession app where anyone can make anonymous confessions. Users can communicate with any other Whisper user living nearby via a GPS location tracker. The user's identity is anonymous but it shows the location of the area from where messages are sent. Any online predator can pinpoint the location of the victim.	**AskFM** allows users to ask any question they want either as an anonymous user or as themselves. However, some people tend to make inappropriate use of the app's anonymity feature by asking vulgar questions and leaving offensive comments. Some even start bullying users by making derogatory remarks.	A messaging app used to send texts, photos, make calls and video chats worldwide. **WhatsApp** uses an internet connection on smartphones and computers.
Mocospace is a free social networking and dating app geared towards African American and Latino communities. Users can connect with strangers worldwide via text messages or voice calls.	**LiveMe** is a live-streaming video app that uses geolocation to share videos. Users can find out a broadcaster's location and earn coins as a way to pay minors for photos.	**Kik** messenger was built to make chat messaging fun and engaging. Users can send quick text messages, photos, and even sketches. However, the app lacks age verification and can be downloaded by kids younger than 13. Cyberstalkers and even pedophiles can get the opportunity to find young kids and compel them into sending risqué photos or personal information.

MeetMe is a dating app that pairs users based on their listed interests and geographic location. The app is rated for users over 17+ and the nature of the app makes it easy for children to be targeted by predators.	**Holla** is a video chat app that randomly connects users to strangers from across the globe. Signing up only requires a Facebook account or valid phone number. The location tracking feature can also be enabled to be matched with somebody nearby. However, violence, profanity, and nudity are common on this app, which is why it's one of the worst social media apps for kids.	**Monkey** is a video chatting app that randomly pairs users with strangers for a 15-second video chat. Users are likely to see inappropriate content and the nature of the app makes it easy for children to be targeted by predators.
Roblox is an online game with a chat function that opens users up to solicitation from sexual predators/unwanted attention in general.	**Snapchat** has millions of global users. However, the popular "bubble messaging" app has privacy and security issues that put many users' privacy at risk. For instance, the app was hacked in 2014 and a large number of users' personal photos or Snapchats were publicized. The app destructs the snaps, but there is a short window that people may use to take screenshots and later exploit it.	**Discord** is commonly used by gamers and allows users to privately chat via text, voice, or video with someone they meet online and in real-time while simultaneously using other apps.
TikTok is one of the most popular video-sharing apps with ~500 million active users worldwide. While 13 is the minimum age required to use the app, anyone can download it as there's no proper age verification. Another concern for parents is the inappropriate language used in some videos, which isn't suitable for kids. Finally, all TikTok accounts are public by default – this means anybody can view the videos uploaded by your children and get in touch with them.	**Omegle** is a video chatting application that allows two parties to indulge in a video chat while being anonymous. The user is addressed as "You" while the other person is addressed as "Stranger." The app has garnered the attention of many critics who deem the application a perfect spot for predators who are after unsuspecting kids.	**Voxer** is a push-to-talk app that enables users to quickly send and receive short voice messages. Users can chat with multiple people simultaneously, and only have to press the "play" button to hear received messages. The service mostly has an adult user base, and some people even use it to instantly communicate with teams at work. Voxer is gaining popularity among teens who may fall victim to cyberbullies. There are many malicious individuals on the network who often send obscene or hurtful messages. The app is still rated 4+ on the App Store despite being linked to serious cases of cyberbullying.
According to recent statistics, more than a million users use **Periscope** every day. However, like any other app, Periscope can be exploited for unethical activities. Periscope allows users to stream audio and video content and share it with other users. Where video chatting or streaming is involved, security hazards automatically arise.	**Houseparty** is a social network that allows users to communicate via texts and video chats in a room. Not only are the videos live but also there are no screening tools in place whatsoever. This means that your kids could very well be exposed to inappropriate content. Users also have the ability to take screenshots and send links through chat.	**WeChat** is a widely popular Chinese app best known for its multipurpose capability. The app offers messaging, social media, and mobile payment services and has more than a billion users. Mostly, the global Chinese community uses the app to stay in touch with their friends and family and send/receive payments from multiple parts of the globe.

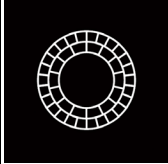|		
Instagram is a widely known photo-sharing application that allows you to capture and share photos with your followers. But due to the ever-growing popularity of the app, it has become a potential target for hackers who are after users' sensitive photos and information.	There are some negative aspects to **Twitter** including cyberbullying, sexting, and a lot of time spent on the site. Cyberbullying is a major issue. It's a site that allows anyone to say anything about someone with few repercussions. which is why parents should monitor their children on the site.	**Facebook**'s safety policy makes it very clear that the site isn't meant for children. The purpose of Facebook is to provide members the opportunity to make connections with old friends, meet new friends and engage in various online social activities with people in their networks.
BIGO LIVE is a live-streaming app that invites people to showcase their talents and talk to interesting people. It's increasingly being used by young people to live steam their activities or make video blogs with the objective of earning money. However, since the content is user-generated, it can include nudity, bad language, and violence.	**Vsco** is a photography app that provides users with a variety of tools to take or upload photos, edit and add Vsco filters, and then share them to a profile, sort of like Instagram does. That said, it's important to know that you have to manually limit location sharing and enable privacy settings. There are also other photo editing tools available for purchase within the app, and these could end up costing you a lot of hard-earned money if your child downloads them.	**Telegram**'s unique selling point is that it offers self-destructing messaging. This is exactly what makes the app unsuitable for kids and teens – anyone can send inappropriate content and get away it. Since usernames are public and can be searched by anyone, there's always the risk of a child encountering strangers. The self-disappearing feature makes it nearly impossible for parents to keep an eye on what messages and being sent and received.
Calculator% is only one of SEVERAL secret apps used to hide photos, videos, files and browser history, which makes it very easy for kids to hide whatever they want.	**Best Secret Folder** is an app that is specifically meant to "hide pictures and videos" according to app store descriptions. It features password protection, decoy videos, and alarm settings.	**Privault** allows users to hide photos, videos, and other files. The app is disguised as a calculator but once opened, it provides access to a password-protected area.