GROWING UP DIGITAL

DIGITAL BALANCE

DIGITAL LITERACY

DIGITAL IDENTITY

DIGITAL SAFETY

PARENTING TIPS

THREE APPS PARENTS SHOULD KNOW

SNAPCHAT

What is it? A popular messaging app that lets users exchange pictures and videos (snaps) that are meant to disappear after they are viewed.

Who is it for? You must be 13 to create an account. However, there is no age verification.

How to connect to your child's account: Parents need to create an account and link their account with their child by adding them as a friend. The child needs to accept the request. This will only allow you to see their friends. You will not see the specific content they send or receive.

Check out Parent Controls in the Family Center to set content controls.

TIPS:
1. Set the Privacy setting to "My Friends"so that only their friends can communicate with them.
2. Protect their password using two factor authentication.
3. Choose "Ghost Mode" so that their location stays private.
4. Know how to block accounts: Press and hold the person's name and tap More, then Block

WIZZ

What is it? Wizz has been labeled as a "social discovery app" that allows users as young as 13 to join and connect with users of a similar age with comparisons to Tinder.

Who is it for? The app states that users must be 13. The user will enter their birthdate and must take a selfie that an AI uses to verify their age, leading to many falsifying their age.

How to connect to your child's account: There are no parental controls, despite the age to create an account is so young.

Concerns have been raised about early exposure to inappropriate content and relationships

TIPS:
1. Make sure to turn off visibility in the app which disables people from reaching out to them
2. Have open discussions with your children about their online habits.

EXPLODE

What is it? This is a "mini" app that lives in iMessage. It allows the user to send texts and photos that will "explode" after you open them. Similar to Snapchat, except the receiver does not need to have the app installed, they just need to be a contact in the sender's phone.

Who is it for? The app does not have an age verification, meaning anyone with iMessage can install and use it.

How to connect to your child's account: Explode AI does not have a system to restrict access based on age or content filters. It does not offer any parental controls. Your child can receive inappropriate content without consent.

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