



APP INSIGHTS

AUGUST 2020

SPECIAL DATES

12 August International Youth Day



hi25: SNAP MESSENGER



3+



9+



14+

Disappearing messages

WHAT IS IT?

hi25 – Snap Messenger allows users to connect with each other, with messages only lasting 25 hours (similar to Snapchat).

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

As with any game or app that asserts to have disappearing messages, users can gain a false sense of security, as no app or message can be 100% secure. Taking a screen grab or using another app to save “deletable” messages is just some of the ways users can get around this restriction.



PARENT TIPS

For parties or sleepovers, you can put a basket at your front door for all devices.

If you are concerned about what is being brought into your house via other kids' devices, you have every right to ask the parent and/or the young person to put the device away or not bring it altogether. Any wifi protections you have in place will not necessarily prevent adult content on new devices, especially if the guest is using their own 3 or 4G networks. Adult content is surprisingly easy to come across, whether it be intentionally searched for or a click on an ad.



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VSCO

**VSCO:
GIRL CAM**



3+



12+



15+

Connect with strangers
default settings are public

WHAT IS IT?

VSCO is a photo and video creation app, that lets users post to a profile (it has been likened to Instagram).

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Parents have been concerned that the default settings are set to public, and users are required to manually change the location settings to limit visibility. The sometimes-negative term 'a VSCO' girl has been used to describe selfie-loving young women who all look the same. Subscription or 'membership' fees are automatic and can be difficult to switch off.

! PARENT TIPS

Finding the parental controls on new devices can sometimes be tricky, and software updates can also make the job tricky on older devices.

Fortunately, information on each device's parental controls is only a click away, as most information is available online. It's also a great idea to regularly check your child's device that the right parental controls are still in place, as you may think you've set everything up correctly but they may have found a go-around, or circumstances have changed and they by-passed your checks.