Mama still got *it!*

THE PARENTING DIGITAL GUIDE: PART TWO

The apps your kids are using that you don't know about

WIZZ * YUBO * TELEGRAM * AI CHATBOTS * ANONYMOUS APPS * VAULT APPS * IN-GAME CHAT

WZ WIZZ: TEEN TINDER

WHAT IT IS

A social discovery app where users swipe through stranger profiles and start private chats.

WHAT TO KNOW

Designed to connect young people with strangers. Has faced serious safety concerns.

WHAT TO DO

Search and remove if found. Check App Store download history - it may not be on the home screen.

YB YUBO: LIVE-STREAMING

WHAT IT IS

A live-streaming app where users broadcast and chat with strangers.

WHAT TO KNOW

Has faced ongoing concerns around safety and age verification.

WHAT TO DO

Check all devices. Remove if found and review what profile information was shared.

TG TELEGRAM

WHAT IT IS

Messaging app like WhatsApp but with large public groups and far less moderation.

WHAT TO KNOW

Public channels and anonymous usernames can expose children to unfiltered content.

WHAT TO DO

Settings > Privacy & Security. Phone Number and Groups > My Contacts. Check which groups they have joined.

AI AI CHATBOTS & AI FRIENDS

WHAT IT IS

Apps where children chat with AI characters or virtual people - some posing as friends, therapists or love interests.

WHAT TO KNOW

Conversations can feel very real. Responses are not always accurate or age-appropriate. Ask how they are using AI and which apps.

WHAT TO DO

Search for Character.AI, Replika and similar apps. Check age settings. Remind them: it is not a real person and it will not always be right.

AN ANONYMOUS APPS: NGL & SENDIT

WHAT IT IS

Apps that let people send anonymous messages, often linked to Instagram Stories.

WHAT TO KNOW

Anonymous means no accountability. These apps are consistently linked to cyberbullying.

WHAT TO DO

Check Instagram Stories for anonymous question stickers. Remove the app if found. Talk about why anonymous feedback can be hard to manage.

VA VAULT & CALCULATOR APPS

WHAT IT IS

Apps disguised as calculators or folders that hide photos, messages or entire accounts.

WHAT TO KNOW

Some include fake decoy screens if a parent checks. Around 42% of teens use some form of hiding app.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

Two calculator apps on one phone. Apps named Vault, Private or Secret Folder. Check Settings > Screen Time (iPhone) or Digital Wellbeing (Android) for full install history.

GM IN-GAME CHAT: FORTNITE & MORE

WHAT IT IS

Chat and voice features built into games. Most parents manage the game but not the social layer inside it.

WHAT TO KNOW

In-game chat is one of the main ways strangers attempt to contact children - because parents don't think of it as social media.

WHAT TO DO

Check chat and voice settings in each game. Disable chat for younger players. Roblox: use the website, not the app (see Part One).

THIS WEEK'S QUICK CHECK

- Search for Wizz, Yubo, Telegram and AI apps
- Check Instagram for anonymous app stickers
- Look for vault or duplicate calculator apps
- Review chat settings in all games