

When is the Right Time for Your Kid to Have a Mobile Phone?

Parents' quick fix to kids and cell phones.



Giving them a cell phone? Here are the Pros and Cons

Advantages



Kids can use cell phones during emergency and ask for help whenever needed.



Mobile phones are usually bundled with data access. Internet access is now a lot easier for everybody.



Tracking your kid location is a lot easier with mobile phone apps.



Kids can easily communicate with their peers at school if they have a cell phone.

Disadvantages



Parents become over protective of their kids and kids become more dependent on their parents help to solve a problem.



Internet access could also mean quick access to offensive materials like profanity, adult and pornographic content.



Kids can experience anxiety being stalked by their parent every time.



Kids can get distracted on their studies and schooling because of excessive texting or chatting on mobile phones.

So when is the right time?

(Youthbeat Study in Time Magazine)

13%
ages 6 to 10 years old

18%
ages 12 years old

A study in 2012 says that 13% of children ages 6 to 10 already own a mobile phone. Study also added that older kids influence cell phone ownership a lot. While 18% say that 12 years old is the right age for first-phonedom.



35%
ages 6 to 10 years old

35% of kids 6-10 years old with cell phones were able to access apps. (but 46% of kids with phones say they use an app on a typical day).

46%
have web access

46% have web access on their phones (although 55% of those kids have a rule in their house that they can't use their cell phone to go online).



47%
Parents use cell phone

47% of parents of kids say that they keep in touch with their children via cell phone when they're not with them. 33% say they text! (In case you're wondering, 64% of kids with phones have unlimited texting plans).

Remind Your Kids



People who own a cell phone have to be responsible.



Safety first, don't talk, text or call a stranger.



Access information and content that is fit to their age.



Kids should let their parents see their cell phone from time to time.



Resources

<http://content.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,2122235,00.html>

<http://www.youthbeat.com/blog/>