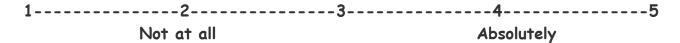
At What Age Are Kids Ready for Cell Phones & Social Media???

"Love and Logic" to the Rescue!!!

At what age should our kids be allowed to have their own cell phones? When is it appropriate for them to begin using social media? What a <u>GREAT</u> question for us to be seriously thinking about!!! Turns out, there is no exact, definitive answer. BUT most of the child and adolescent research suggests that the <u>early-to-middle teenage years</u> is the time when kids appear to be ready and mature enough to handle this important responsibility.

Since "maturity" and "readiness" are relative terms—and all kids are different—we should seriously consider the following questions—to help us decide when our own kids may be "ready."

Rate your answers from 1 to 5 for all the statements below. Total your score at the end. The higher the score, the more confident you can be that your child possesses the basic maturity required to responsibly handle technology. If in doubt, you'll want to err on the side of caution.



My child is respectful and fun to be around most of the time.

My child typically makes good decisions—when he or she isn't being watched.

My child takes responsibility for his or her poor decisions—without blaming others.

My child believes that using technology is a privilege... rather than an entitlement or "right."

My child understands that not everybody online is their "friend."

My child completes chores and other responsibilities without needing to be nagged.

My child isn't hooked on drama or gossip.

When I ask my child to turn off the TV, a video game, etc. they do so without arguing.

My child handles conflict, teasing, and other social trials—without "falling apart."

My child understands the risks of sharing too much information online.

Thanks for Reading @

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