

# How Young is Too Young for Social Media?

Media Literacy- Unit 1- Digital Citizenship



# Learning Objectives

Explain why websites that collect personal information have an age requirement of 13.

Identify the risks of targeted advertising, especially when it is targeted to children.

Explain what age they think is best for beginning to use social media, and support their argument with specific reasons and examples.



# Essential Question


At what age should people be allowed to use social media?



# Essential Vocabulary

**“Targeted Advertising”**- Advertisements that are shown to you based on information that has been collected about you (location, browsing history, interests, age, etc.)

**“Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA)”**- a federal law in the United States that restricted websites from collecting information about users who are younger than 13.




# Small Group/Whole Group Discussion

*--Do you think there should be an age requirement for being on websites like Snapchat or YouTube or Twitch? If so, what should it be?*

*--Is targeted advertising more of a risk when it's directed at children? Why or why not?*

*--One of the arguments for an age requirement is that kids are more at risk when companies collect data about them (such as age, location, school, likes/dislikes, what they post). Why do you think that is? Why does data collection represent a problem for kids?*



# Watch & Discuss

- What are the arguments for and against having an age requirement?
- Which side do you agree with?



# Letter to My Younger Self

## Directions

In this activity, you are going to write a letter to yourself at age 10. In the letter, you're going to make a recommendation about what age you should be when you sign up for and use social media. Your letter should include specific reasons and examples from what you learned today and from your own experiences using social media. Consider the brainstorming questions below before writing your letter.

## Brainstorming Questions (Answer as many as are helpful to you.)

1. What do you see as the biggest benefits to using social media? How does it enhance your life?
  2. What are your biggest concerns about using social media? What would be most risky for a child?
  3. What experiences on social media have shaped your opinions the most? What have been the most memorable, both positive and negative?
  4. What do you remember about your 10-year-old self? What were you interested in? What was challenging for you?
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