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With the rise of social media in today's world, it's no surprise that our children want to get involved with sites like Facebook. Kids will even go as far as to lie about their age just to get on, which can jeopardize their privacy and safety.

But not to worry, because I've found some safe social networking sites that are just for kids and even better, they won't cost you a dime.

Yoursphere is a site made entirely for those 18 and under that lets children create blogs based on their interests. Not only is this a great way for kids to engage their friends, but it can allow them to explore their creativity through writing. This site is free and requires parental approval for ages 12 and under.

And for middle-schoolers looking to get in on social media, try using Kidzworld . In addition to a social networking section, Kidzworld features entertainment news, games, and advice columns. It's a great way to interact with friends, as well as read and learn about what is going on in the world.

For young ones who aren't quite teenagers, Everloop is a great free site in which kids can interact with their friends. A credit card is necessary to set up an account and security is air tight. Everloop has real people using pattern-recognition technology to detect the earliest traces of trouble.

Designed exclusively for kids ages 6 to 11, Scuttlepad is an excellent free way to slowly start your children on social media. It will even teach kids sentence structure, as it has them choose from a list of words to create status updates. Scuttlepad asks for very little personal information and approves all photos manually, meaning no inappropriate pictures will be posted.

In today's world social skills are every bit as important as education. With these sites, parents can get their kid started off in the social media world at no cost. More importantly, they can do it in a manner that won't have them losing any sleep over safety.