

Why Kids Should Have Phones by Batya

Many parents think screens are bad for your eyes. They think kids are not responsible enough to have a phone. They think using screens slow down your brain activity. *Even if the parents bring up some well supported points, I think they are wrong.* Having a phone can be super useful and very handy. There are times when a kid is stuck in a jam, they are probably thinking to themselves, “Ugh, I wish I had a phone,” or “Wow. If I had a phone right now, this situation would be so much better!” That’s why I think that kids, age nine and older, should have phones. **If you are a parent and don’t approve of your child having a phone, there are many reasons that will convince you otherwise.** The reasons are to increase the responsibility of your child, for them to be prepared in any emergency, and to save your child from the “horrors” of boredom.

One reason kids should have phones is they’d have more responsibility. *They wouldn't have to rely on their parents for common information such as weather, time and date. Some parents don't let their children go far places by themselves because they are worried about their child.* With a phone, parents would not be so worried, for they would be able to communicate with their kid. They could do that through text, call, facetime, or email. When a kid has a phone, they will feel more responsible. They will feel like they are more grown up when they walk home from school or arrange playdates by themselves. Developing responsibility early in a great skill to have.

Another reason kids should have phones is in case of emergencies. In a dangerous situation, a child could contact the police by calling 911. This would only be about an absolute emergency such as a fire or a robbery. Although these things are unlikely, it is always better to be safe than sorry. They could also call 311 if there were a dead or injured animal. Sadly, things like this happen every day. *In case of a slight injury or a bully, the kids could call their parents.* Parents are great to go to in any situation. Kids could call their parents if they are in need of an extra sweater or a lunch. In emergencies, a phone can be a useful item to have.

The last reason to give kids phones is to help kids stay entertained in boring situations like riding the school bus . Many kids get into fights on the bus. You could play games on the bus such as Minecraft or White Tiles to prevent these fights. Your kid could also play just for fun, for many bus rides are not very entertaining. If your kid is not much of a game person, Listening to music is your answer. Many popular songs are on itunes right now from a variety of artists. Some of the artists that can be featured are Taylor Swift and Justin Bieber. A phone can also be used for things such as YouTube or Social Media. *Even if your kids may not be able to get access to those things on the bus, I still thought I should mention them.* Traffic is another thing Phones could be used for while the are on the bus, especially in the city. During traffic, kids could play games and listen to music as well as calling their parents to notify them on their lateness. Having a phone will make boring situations so much more enjoyable.

As you can see, having a phone can be useful in many ways, such as increasing responsibility of your child, emergencies, and providing hours of entertainment for the kids. If you are a parent, make sure to get your child a phone as soon as possible! Life in general will be so much easier for your child with a phone in hand. I hope you as a parent will consider my reasoning and take my advice of buying your kid a phone.