

Parent Tip Tuesday-Byte

There's a new video app that is incredibly popular and you may see it on your kid's phone. Byte is a video sharing app where the videos are six seconds long. It is designed to create short clips, perfect for memes, that keep users sucked in as the content quickly moves from one clip to the next.

Byte was released in January of 2020 and had more than 1 million downloads in the first three days. It was designed by one of the co-founders of Vine and is trying to move in to Vine's vacated market space. Users can use Byte's camera to shoot the videos or take them off of their camera roll if they were previously shot.

Byte doesn't have a lot of the functions that are concerning to parents that others apps have. There is no way to send a direct message to users. This does limit the predator risk, but since public comments can be made on the video, there is still a risk. In addition, there is no location sharing service in the app and that is really good. However, if your child includes their location in their description or shares videos with obvious locations, they are sharing that information.

The app is still young and there isn't a massive vault of content. In addition, you aren't able to search for content so that helps limit the ability to find inappropriate content. Like most apps, sit down with your son/daughter and have them show you the app. Have a conversation about what they do and don't like. Not only will you learn about what they are using the app for, but you may also learn new things about your child.

Parent Tip Tuesday is a weekly series where the Parker Police Department talks about an issue involving parents and children. Topics will range from the latest apps and technology to building resiliency in your children. Our goal is to give parents five minutes' worth of information every week that is easily digestible and educate them about new issues that they or their children may face. Please comment below if there are topics that you would like to see us cover.

You can find the previous Parent Tip Tuesday content on our website:

<http://www.parkerpolice.org/2032/Parent-Tip-Tuesday>