

Lili Samimi
Fei Zhao
Michael Grisafe

What is it about?

Our project would connect geographically distant relatives with their children, whether that is their grandchildren, nieces, nephews, or their own children. Children, especially under the age of 5, love seeing photos and videos of their loved ones and themselves. They are always grabbing their parents smartphones and tablets to look at recent photos and videos. They will watch those videos and look at those pictures on repeat. It's almost impossible to take the phone/tablet away from them. Our application would provide a portal for children to see recent videos and pictures that have been sent from close relatives. This would allow children to stay connected with their distant relatives.

Note: This project is an extension of a project concept created by Christina Pellerano for SI 582 Winter 2014.

Who are the user groups?

For the purpose of this project, we'll be focusing our application on children up to the age of 5 and grandparents.

Why is it important?

Many grandparents are geographically distant from their grandchildren in the United States, restricting their opportunities for interacting with them. In addition, families are often busy or in different time zones, restricting the times in which they can call or video chat in real time. Our application places grandchildren and grandparents at the forefront, giving both groups an simple interface in which they can use to record, upload and view photos and videos at any time.

What are the competitors?

Facebook: Grandparents can sign up facebook pages and parents can post their child's videos and photos on facebook pages for grandparents.

Instagram: Parents can post their child's pictures and videos on Instagram and share with grandparents.

Skype: Grandparents can do video chats with their grandchildren via Skype.

Why is your idea better?

Our app removes the problems associated with scheduling a real-time video chat on Skype, Facetime, or a phone call by allowing grandparents/children to post videos and pictures for later viewing. This application is also more secure and private than applications like Facebook and Instagram because families would be restricted to connecting to each other. In addition, our application is the only child-centric program on its kind that provides a simplified interface that children can easily use to watch and record videos and take pictures for their grandparents. By contrast, Instagram and Facebook are especially complicated for young children and older adults, leaving opportunities for accidental posts and security issues which are not present in our proposed app.

