

Listen
Talk
Connect
Grow

Big Questions for Little Minds

Stronger
Children
Brighter
Futures!

Meaningful Conversations
for a Brighter Tomorrow

75 Open-Ended Questions to Spark
Curiosity, Build Connection, and Encourage
Big Thinking in Preschoolers

Small
Questions
Lead to
BIG
Connections!

Teachers

Parents

Homeschool

Caregivers

What
do you
think?

Tell me
more!

What
happened
next?

What
if?

I love
hearing
your ideas!

Good
Questions
Brighter
Children

Curiosity
Confidence
Creativity

Kindness
Communication
Brighter
Futures

Questions

Conversations

Stronger Children

Happier Hearts

By Retired Teacher

Ronnette Curls

☒ Ask
☒ Listen
☒ Be Present
☒ Cherish the Moments

For Teachers Parents Homeschool Everyday Moments Matter!

Open-Ended Questions

1. Questions for Right Now

About what the child can see, touch, or hear in the moment.
Best for a quiet five minutes on the rug, in the bedroom, or in the car at a red light.

Curious
Children
Brighter
Thinkers!



Look
Listen
Touch
Think
Talk



There are
no right or
wrong answers
— just great
thinking!



Teacher Tip:

Give children time
to think, listen
without interrupting,
and encourage
them to share more
by saying:

"Tell me more."

"What makes you
think that?"

"What else
do you notice?"

"Can you show me?"



Little Questions
Lead to Big Thinking!



Curiosity
Builds
Brighter
Futures!





Good
Questions
Build
Stronger
Connections!

Open-Ended Questions

Questions About Their Day

For after school or daycare, the snack-on-the-couch moment when the kid is still warm from the day and the memory is fresh. Short, concrete, focused on one thing at a time.



Kids
Love to
Share When
We Listen!



16 Tell me about something you ate today that you really liked.

17 Who did you play with today, and what did you play?

18 Tell me about one thing you made today.

19 What was the funniest thing somebody said today, and what made it funny?

20 What is one thing you did today that you want to do again tomorrow? Tell me why.

21 Tell me about a song you sang today.

22 What is one thing your teacher did today that made you smile? Tell me about it.

23 Tell me about what you did at recess today.

24 What is one toy at school that you love? Tell me what you do with it.

25 What is one thing somebody at school is good at, and how do you know?

26 Tell me about something you played today that was your own idea.

27 Tell me about something somebody shared with you today.

28 What is one thing that surprised you today? Tell me what happened.

29 Tell me about a quiet moment from today.

30 Tell me about one thing you did today that you are proud of.



Listen
Ask
Be Curious
Show You Care
Make Time
for Their
Stories



Every Day
is a
Story Worth
Hearing!



Every Day Has a Story!

Listen today. Brighter tomorrows ahead!



Open-Ended Questions

Questions for the Car or the Walk

For the captive-audience window. The kid is strapped in, looking around, and you have a couple of minutes of soft attention. Use these as conversation starters that don't require eye contact.

- 31 Tell me about the first thing you see out the window.
- 32 Tell me about one tree you can see from here.
- 33 What is one thing on the road that you have never noticed before? Tell me about it.
- 34 What animal would you like to see right now, and what would they be doing?
- 35 What is one cloud that looks like something else? Tell me what it looks like.
- 36 Tell me about one sound you hear in the car right now.
- 37 Tell me about one car you saw today that you liked.
- 38 Tell me about one house we passed that looks interesting to you.
- 39 What is one thing outside that is moving really slowly? Tell me what it is doing.
- 40 What is one thing outside that is moving really fast? Tell me what you think happens next.
- 41 Tell me about the prettiest thing you can see outside.
- 42 What color of car do you wish ours was, and why?
- 43 Tell me about one thing in the sky right now.
- 44 What is one thing on the sidewalk you would stop and look at? Tell me why.
- 45 Tell me about one new thing you noticed on this trip.

Good
Conversations
Go
Everywhere!

Look
Around
Talk
About It!

Same Road

New
Questions

Bigger
Thinking

Curiosity
Turns
Ordinary Trips
into Amazing
Conversations!

Great Questions
Lead to Great Conversations!

EXPLORE
TALK
CONNECT

Little
Talks
Big
Connections



Open-Ended Questions

Questions for Bath Time and Bedtime

For the slow, calm part of the day when the kid is winding down and ready to reflect on something small. These questions land softer because the moment is softer.

Calm Conversations Create Happy Hearts!

Good Questions Lead to Sweet Dreams!

- 46 Tell me about your favorite part of today.
- 47 Tell me about one thing you want to do tomorrow.
- 48 Tell me about something that made you laugh today.
- 49 What is one thing you are happy about right now? Tell me why.
- 50 What are you excited to see when you wake up? Tell me about it.
- 51 What is one thing somebody said to you today that you remember? Tell me about it.
- 52 Tell me about the best part of lunch/dinner tonight.
- 53 Tell me about one thing in your room that you really love.
- 54 Tell me about one stuffed animal you have been thinking about.
- 55 Tell me about one thing you saw today that was really beautiful.
- 56 Tell me about something you wish we could do tomorrow.
- 57 What is one thing you hope happens when you fall asleep? Tell me about it.
- 58 Tell me about one tiny kind thing somebody did today.
- 59 What is one thing you are grateful for tonight? Tell me why.
- 60 Tell me about a good dream you remember.

Small Questions Make Big Connections!

Relax

Reflect

Talk

Connect

Grow

Kind Conversations Brighter Tomorrows!

Clean Bodies Calm Minds Happy Kids!

Sweet Conversations Before Sweet Dreams!

Listen ♥ Appreciate ♥ Encourage ♥ Love

Grateful Kids

Happier Hearts

Brighter Futures

Silly
Questions
Spark
Big
Imagination!

Open-Ended Questions

Wondering and Silly Questions

Let
Their
Imagination
Shine!

For the goofy slot. Preschoolers are inventors! These give them the floor. Ask one when the day has been hard and you both need a smile, or at the dinner table when the food is good and nobody is in a rush.

Dream
Ask
Wonder
Laugh!

61 If you could be any animal right now, which one would you pick, and what would you do?

62 If your stuffed animal could talk, what would they say to you?

63 Tell me about the silliest sound you can think of.

64 If you could fly anywhere right now, where would you go, and what would you do there?

65 If you could pick a new name just for today, what would it be, and why?

66 What would a unicorn eat for breakfast, and how would they eat it?

67 If you could turn into a bird for an hour, where would you fly, and what would you see?

68 If you invented a new ice cream flavor, what would be in it, and what would you call it?

69 What is the funniest thing a frog could say, and how would it say it?

70 If you had a pet dragon, what would you name it, and what would you teach it?

71 If your shoes could walk by themselves, where would they go, and what would they bring back?

72 What does the moon do during the day? Tell me where it goes.

73 If you could have a tiny house in a tree, what would be inside, and who would visit you?

74 If you could give a flower a voice, what would it sing about?

75 Tell me about the silliest thing you can imagine right now.

Imagine
Explore
Create
Talk!

Silly
Minds
Make
a Happier
World!

Ribbit!
What would
I say?

There
are no silly
answers —
only amazing
ideas!

Big
Questions
Grow
Bright
Futures!

KEEP
WONDERING!

Curious Minds
Create a Kinder, Brighter World!