

Family Talk & Skill Builder Game #6

Roll 2 dice twice to locate a table cell. First roll is vertical and second roll is horizontal. 12 = you choose a number. Or use a deck of cards where you ignore face cards and the ace is 11. Take turns clockwise. If that cell item has already been dialogued, use one from any cell touching the cell of the numbers. Then, complete the sentence. When a person answers, others ask curious questions to get to know that family member better, but never to criticize. The best questions are "Why?" and "What do you mean?" Then, going around the circle, everyone answers that same question. This process repeats with the next person clockwise (or you can go by age, from the youngest to oldest). For the very best results, read the free article "Successful Family Dialogue" at www.ChurchesReachOut.com.

*The publisher, organization and person who gave you this tool cannot be responsible for the outcome of your conversations. Use good judgment. If conflict arises, stop immediately and seek the expert help of a professional counselor or psychotherapist.

	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
	Getting to Know You	Favorites	Memories	Wishes & Dreams	Thinking Together	Best Ways	Choices	Survival & Success	Positive Attitude	Problem Solving	
	Finish the statement	What is your favorite & why?	Tell a memory of . . .	Answer	What do you think about . . . ?	What is the best way to . . . ?	What should happen if you . . . ?	Answer	Name 3 good things about . . .	How would you handle this?	
2	I appreciated it when someone helped me . . .	musical instrument	something done in the snow; a park; or laughing	If you had to live disguised, how would you do it?	cooking	get to bed on time	don't ride your bike safely	How do you get something out of your eye?	tiredness	you are expected to help a brother lose weight	2
3	When through with school (work), I . . .	place to swim	a long trip in the car; a loud sound; or the zoo	What talking animals would be in your club?	sticking with things until they are done	explain why you should not be disciplined	don't accept punishment you deserve	If you fall through the ice on a lake, what do you do?	taking care of toys	you want your parents to be nicer to one another	3
4	What I like best about the nighttime is . . .	gem stone	balloons; a time you kept your cool; or Summer	How would you like your best friend to be famous?	our pets	take a shower or bath	answer the phone rudely	What things do you consider dangerous to your goals?	hard things to do	a friend does not invite you to his or her party	4
5	I like to be alone when . . .	soft drink or bottled or canned drink	a neighbor; or a time when you were too wet	What would your ideal home be like?	people of other races and nationalities	save money	get too angry when you lose at a game	How will you decide when to go to a doctor?	snow	kids your age are picking on much smaller children	5
6	A pet I once liked a lot was . . .	farm animal	something you have to be careful with; or dancing	What group of less fortunate people would you help?	playing a musical instrument	vacuum and mop and sweep floors	take advantage of people's generosity	What do you know about cooking?	bedtime	you want to talk your parents out of making you take lessons	6
7	My favorite song is . . .	indoor sport to play or do	something you made; or a friend's parent	What would be a favorite way to make big money?	smoking	accept deserved punishment	talk disrespectfully to your parents	Asking questions is critical for success. Can you do it well?	mosquitos	you are on a team that is not taking the assignment seriously	7
8	Two things that are good about me are . . .	kind of tree	a brother, sister or cousin; or getting dressed	What would you like to do on a cruise ship?	our front yard or apartment house	plan time together	do not listen	How can you keep from spending money you don't have?	budgeting	you need permission for more time to finish an assignment	8
9	I feel important when . . .	time to rest or nap	a school subject you really like(d)	What movie would you actually like to live in real life?	contributing to family happiness & functioning	play competitive games	act selfishly	How is the best way to handle criticism?	good sense of humor	you have something important to say and no one will listen	9
10	When I am with friends I like to . . .	food for dinner	something sharp; or school assemblies	How would you give away a million dollars?	my moods	take care of, treat & discipline our pets	are mean to others	How will you decide what is a waste of money?	all televisions in the house are broken	an older sibling or co-worker threatens if you tell on him or her	10
11	I'm the type of person who . . .	road or street	a photo; hiding; or bragging about something	If you were boss at work/school, what would you do?	pushing yourself to succeed	answer the door	do too much bragging	When and how do you give artificial respiration?	being bored	would like to know what your family really thinks of you	11

Your Church Name & Other Information Goes Here

Information of your choosing goes here.

(example)

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River Bend, California

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WHAT IS DIALOGUE?

There is probably no finer communication skill than dialogue. Therefore, if your family does it, you will build better and better relationships through understanding and caring.

DIALOGUE IS MERELY ASKING QUESTIONS OF EACH OTHER OUT OF CURIOSITY IN ORDER TO BETTER KNOW AND UNDERSTAND ONE ANOTHER

Dialogue usually means just asking the questions "Why?" and "What do you mean?" over and over again. When you ask a person a "why" question, it usually opens up a bit of new information about him or her. Another "why" question yields a little more. When a "why" question seems hard to think of, then any simple, friendly, non-judgmental question motivated by curiosity is fine.

Such dialogue helps you find out what others really think and feel. It also helps others find out what you really think and feel.

Understanding and accepting other people – deeper and deeper through dialogue – knowing how others think and feel, as well as what they really mean by what they say, creates much better relationships.

GUIDELINES FOR DIALOGUE

For good dialogue, it is important to follow these ground rules:

1. Answer what is true for you. Other family members will try to remember what you said so they can better understand you and treat you better.
2. Listen in order to understand the person talking, not to change him or her.
3. No arguing, criticizing or objecting. People hate to be criticized over things they say. They know what they think and feel, and they consider it absurd and insensitive if others think they know these things better.
4. Ask lots of questions (usually "Why?" or "What do you mean?") to clarify what is being communicated. Other clarifying questions can be: "What?" "What for?" "How?" "When?" "How come?" "Where?" "In what way?" "Can you explain?" "Please tell me more."
5. Refrain from giving advice or breaking in with your own contribution.
6. Let people be themselves, even if they give an answer that you do not agree with or like. Instead of objecting or offering criticism, ask the other persons "Why" questions. This will help you clarify what they are saying, what they think and feel about things, and who they are. People will appreciate your efforts to understand them.
7. Avoid conflict. There are no right or wrong answers. There is just what a person says. He or she will appreciate you for asking about and learning from his or her own words.
8. Solve problems only after much dialogue has produced deeper understanding. Dialogue may expose some differences that might have to be solved. Make a note of those you think might need later discussion and problem-solving. During dialogue, do not bring up problems.