

Family Talk & Skill Builder Game #4

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	Emotions	Thinking Together	Best Ways	Choices	Survival & Success	Positive Attitude	Wishes & Dreams	
	Finish the statement	What is your favorite & why?	Tell a memory of . . .	What makes you feel . . . ?	What do you think about . . . ?	What is the best way to . . . ?	What should happen if you . . . ?	Answer	Name 3 good things about . . .	Answer	
2	On weekends I like to . . .	food for breakfast	a time you felt really bad about something	talkative	playing fair	get ready for school on time	are not friendly to others	Why and how do you protect your hands?	quiet	Where would you ride on a magic carpet?	2
3	I'm really good at . . .	electronic device	a scary thing with an animal; a tree; or doing art	happy or glad	our neighborhood	wash windows	lose money	What should you do if you hear gunfire?	admitting a mistake	What would be in the magical forest you design?	3
4	I am most happy when . . .	Internet social media, blog, or discussion group	you tried something and failed and it was okay	afraid	handling temptations	save money on toys	are rude	How do you get something out of your ear?	family pictures	What silly things would you like to do?	4
5	What I like best about rural areas is . . .	skill or talent	an embarrassing time; or going to the dentist	annoyed	the family car	keep warm in cold weather	don't take good care of important things	What can you do for a sore throat?	a best friend	What would you like to photograph?	5
6	The funniest thing I can think of is . . .	amusement park	something funny that you said; or a sports incident	unhappy	using knives	help others have fun when you are not	don't put your outside toys away	How are you going to stay safe in your favorite sport?	chores	What type of "bad guy" would you like to apprehend?	6
7	The kind of book I like to read is . . .	indoor sport to watch	a dollhouse; making music; or something heavy	tense	policemen and policewomen	wash the car	don't remember things	What do you do for a cramp?	criticism	With what kind of animal would you like to swim?	7
8	My favorite drink is . . .	country in the world (other than your own)	saying something wrong; or a time in bad weather	adventurous	helping younger kids	take care of your teeth and wash your face	don't tell us you have done something wrong	What should you do if a stranger is following you?	apologizing	What award would you like to win at a county fair?	8
9	I like to make believe I . . .	toy with wheels	something with a siren; shopping; or singing	defeated or beaten down	singing	dust the house	don't do your best in school	What can you do to protect your ears?	something you know nothing about	If you could, how would you help people be happier?	9
10	I'm silly when . . .	accomplishment	a most physically painful experience; or fire	secure	your school or place of work	celebrate family birthdays	watch too much television	How do you keep safe in a small boat?	sharing valued items with others	What totally useless thing would you buy?	10
11	I don't like it when . . .	animal to ride	a grandmother; something confusing; or a ball	provoked	taking care of pets	tell your parents you think they are wrong	criticize others	What do you do if you break your leg or arm?	kicking back for a day or two	What gift would you give to every family in the world?	11

Your Church Name & Other Information Goes Here

Information of your choosing goes here.

(example)

River Bend Community Church

1289 East Willow Road
River Bend, California

www.rbcxchurch.org

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so that you can insert
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This space can also be used as
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wants to pay the expense of this
outreach effort.

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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.