

Dinner-Table Conversation Starters

Have you ever asked your kids “How was your day?” and get just one word, like “Fine”? Of course you have, especially if you have boys. Here are some ways to get different kinds of conversations going ... around the dinner table, or anywhere you choose.

About Your Day

What was something that made you laugh today?

What was something you did today that made you proud?

What is something you learned today?

What did you do today that helped someone?

What did someone do today to help you?

What happened today that surprised you?

What was the strangest thing you saw today?

Wondering Aloud Prompts

What are some things that friends do for each other?

Do you think it is harder to be a kid or an adult?

If you could open up a store, what kind of store would it be?

If you could be superhero, what would your power be?

What is something you wish you could change in the world?

If a genie granted you three wishes, what would you wish for?

Would you rather travel to outer space or under the sea?

Would you rather go back in time or into the future to meet someone? Who would it be?

If you were to spend a week in a secluded cabin with no electricity or internet, what five things would you bring? (besides food and water and a kerosene lamp/candles)

If you could switch places with one person for a day, who would it be and what would you do?

Notable Quotables

These thought-provoking quotes can take you lots of different directions.

“Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time.” – Thomas Edison

“The beautiful thing about learning is that nobody can take it away from you.” – B.B. King

“It takes a great deal of bravery to stand up to our enemies, but just as much to stand up to our friends.” – Albus Dumbledore (Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone, J.K. Rowling)

“Today you are you, that is truer than true. There is no one alive who is youer than you.” – Dr. Seuss

“The Brain is wider than the Sky.” – Emily Dickinson

“People are just as happy as they make up their minds to be.” – Abraham Lincoln

“Worry is a misuse of the imagination.” – Dan Zadra

“Logic will take you from A to B. Imagination will take you everywhere.” – Albert Einstein

“Be yourself, for everybody else is already taken.” – Oscar Wilde

“All generalizations are false, including this one.” – Mark Twain

“You’re braver than you believe and stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think.” – Christopher Robin (Winnie-the-Pooh, A.A. Milne)

“Sometimes the heart sees what is invisible to the eye.” – H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

“Laughing brains are more absorbent.” – Alton Brown

“A good leader inspires others with confidence in him; a great leader inspires them with confidence in themselves.” – Anonymous