

Trip Talks and Travel Games



**Bring this booklet with you on vacation this summer!
Use it in your car, at restaurants
or wherever your family is together.**

For Travelers

O God, our heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: Preserve those who travel; surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Book of Common Prayer, page 831



Sometimes we assume kids and parents know each other inside and out. But you never know exactly what someone else thinks or feels until you ask.

By selecting a few questions occasionally, over time, communication can keep going over time, throughout the summer.

We know you seek to prioritize precious family-time together. Decades later, this will be a pivotal time that your children remember, long after the hectic schedules cease. No one loses in family discussions; in fact, everyone wins! And the list of things to talk about can go on and on. Information that comes out during communication is the reward the whole family reaps.

Blessings on you and your family, from your Salford Mennonite community!

Conversation starters:

If you had a whole day to do anything you want, what would you do?

If you got a special gift for your birthday and someone wanted to borrow it, what would you do?

Finish this sentence: I'd like to learn how to . . .

How is your family's love like God's love?

If you could choose a spot in your house for family prayers and stories, where would it be?

What are you really good at? How could you use this skill to help God?

How do you think God felt on the day you were born?

At the end of a busy day, would you rather be with people or be alone?

What is your first childhood memory?

What do you like to do with your spare time?

If you could be a character in a story or show, which would it be?

Why do you think God created families?

Who are your favorite music artists?

What do you like to do on Saturday mornings?

What's easiest about being a kid? What's hardest?

Who is a famous person you'd love to meet?

What personal skill are you most proud of?

Who is your favorite child-care or school teacher?

What is something that really upsets you?

Where is your favorite place in the house?

What scares you most?

What has been your biggest disappointment?

What is something you'd like to do more often as a family?

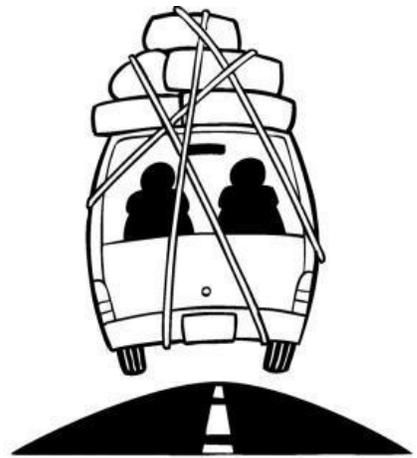
What is your most embarrassing moment from childhood?

What is your earliest childhood memory?

What was your favorite toy growing up? What toy do you still wish was sold/available?

What chore did you dislike when you were young? How about now? What chore do you enjoy?

What is your favorite holiday? What makes it your favorite?



If you could only eat three foods for the rest of your life, what would they be?

If you had your very own plane, where would you fly? Follow up: What would you do there?

If you could paint all the rooms in the house a different color, what color would you paint each room?

If you could be a cartoon character for one week, who would you be?

How do you think God wants us to respond to difficult people?

The historical moment I most remember – both good and bad.

What would you do with your time, if all electronics were taken away?

If you could have dinner with anyone from history, who would it be and why?

If you had to teach a class for a day, what subject would you choose?

What's one choice you really regret? How would you change that mistake?

What was your favorite childhood book? What great book have you read recently?

If you could decorate your room any way you wanted it, what would it look like?

What's your favorite memory of a picnic?

How can you show someone that they are special to you?

What are five things you want to have accomplished by the time you are 70 years old?

Do you feel like you are a leader or a follower? What makes you think that?

How would you describe yourself to someone who has never met you?

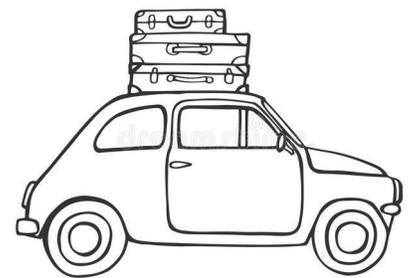
What is your favorite family tradition?

If you could stay up all night, what would you do?

If your pet could answer three questions, what would you ask him/her?

What is the most beautiful place you have ever seen?

What is one item that you should throw away, but probably won't?



What trip would you most like to take in your lifetime?

If you could be any U.S. president, which one would you be?

What is the most courageous thing you have ever done?

Which person in your family do you look most like?

What do you think makes a good parent?

Describe your perfect day from the time you wake up to the time you go to bed.

What superpowers would you like to have?

If you were writing a newspaper article about your day, what would the headline be?

If you won \$100, what would you do with it?

If you could ask God one question, what would it be?

You are going to be alone on a deserted island for a year and you get to take one book/DVD/CD. What would you take?

If you were president, name three things that you would change about the country right away.

If you could make a movie, what would it be about?

In the movie about your life, what actor would play you? Who would play your best friend?

If you could invent something that would make life easier, what would it do?

If you could be an Olympic athlete, in what sport would you compete?

If your life got “stuck” at one age, what age would you choose?

What's the most important thing people need to know about God?

If you could change one thing in the world, what would you change?

If you could change one thing about yourself, what would you change?

What is the most important thing in your life?

What is the hardest thing about being _____ years old?



What is the best thing about being _____ years old?

What job would you never want to have?

Who is your best friend? Why are they your best friend?

How would you describe God?

If you had three wishes, what would they be? (You're not allowed to wish for money or another wish!)

Do you know how much your family loves you? How can you tell?

If you could be any animal, which would you be?

If you could only eat one food, and nothing else, for three days in a row, what would it be?

If you had to live in a different state, which would you choose?

If you could change one thing about your personality, what would it be?

Would you rather live in the country or the city? Mountains or beach?

If you could start a new family tradition, what would it be?

How do you know when you can trust another person?

Do you learn more when you win or when you lose?
Tell us more.

What does faith mean to you?

What's your favorite physical activity and why?

What does it mean to "give thanks in all circumstances" (1
Thessalonians 5:18)?

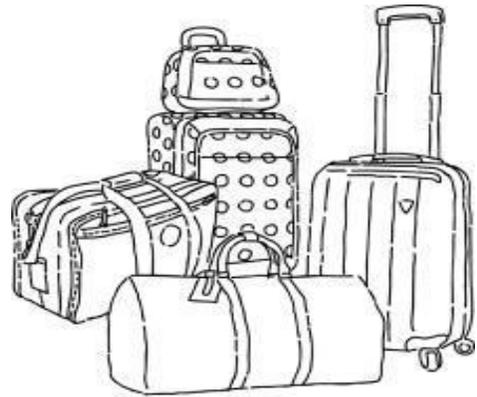
What is one thing you prayed about today?

If your friend was ill and confined to bed, name three things you could do to brighten their day.

If you had the attention of the world for just 30 seconds, what would you say?

If you were asked to organize a field trip for your class, where would you take them?

What do you like most about Christmas?



What are your dreams for the future?

What do you think Jesus was like as a little boy?

If you were to write a book, what kind of story would it be?

What's the best way to spend a rainy day?

How do you think we could become closer as a family?

Why do you think God loves us so much?

What gifts or talents do you think God has given you?

What's your favorite thing about Grandma and/or Grandpa?

Has God been teaching you anything new lately?

Do you want to have a family of your own someday? Why or why not?

What do you think it would have been like to be one of Jesus' disciples?

What's the best dream you've ever had?

Is there anyone at school or church that you look up to or want to be like? If so, why?

What's your favorite Bible story, and what do you like best about it?

What is your favorite smell in the whole world?

What would you say to God if God were sitting here with us?

What are your favorite and least favorite subjects at school?

What do you want to be or do when you grow up?

What do you think are good ways to talk to your friends about faith?

What do you think is the greatest invention of all time?

Using one word, how would you describe our family?

If your parents misbehaved, what punishment would you give them?

If we built a dream house, and you could have one room to do anything you wanted, what would you do with it?



What do you think it would be like to be very poor?

If you were given \$1,000 to use to help other people, how would you spend it?

If you could pick a new first name, what would it be? Why?

If you were invisible for a day, what would you want to observe?

When you do something nice for someone else, how does it make you feel?

What does it mean to be inspired?

Who sets a good example for you? Do they inspire you to be a good person?

What makes you want to do good things?

How do you like to be rewarded for working hard in school?

Finish this sentence: "Someday, I'm going to be the first person in the world to..."

When is a failure a success?

What do you think is your greatest talent or ability?

Menno Simons said, (simply translated) "True faith does not stay quiet but shows itself through love, feeding, sheltering and clothing those who need it, comforting those who are sad, and aiding those who are oppressed." What does that mean to you?

In *The Lorax*, Dr Seuss writes "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, Nothing is going to get better. It's not." What do you care about a lot?

What did you do today that you are proud of doing?

What does it mean to be brave?

What was the nicest thing someone has ever done for you?

What is your favorite restaurant? What is your favorite thing to order?

What do you do if you see someone treated unfairly?

What is something special you want to do for a friend?

What makes you smile?



If you could play any instrument, which would you choose and why?

What is the most beautiful thing you have ever seen?

What would you like to collect?

Travel Games

These games will leave you unplugged and connecting with your family in no time. They require no preparation and stimulate learning and creativity!



The Picnic Game

One player says, "I went to a picnic Saturday and I brought . . ." then says a picnic favorite that begins with the letter A, like apples. The next player repeats the opening phrase, and after ". . . I brought" they repeat the A item then add one that begins with B "I brought an apple and some bananas." The third player repeats the opening, the A and B portions, and then adds something that begins with C. Can your travelers get through the alphabet, remembering all the items everyone contributed?

Tell Jokes

Take turns telling silly jokes like knock-knock jokes or riddles. This is especially fun when the kids use their creativity to make up their own jokes. Even a two-year-old can tell jokes! They may not make sense, but they sure are hilarious.

Virtual Hide and Seek

Pick a place inside your house to hide and imagine you are there. You can be any size, so you can hide in the silverware drawer, inside the toilet, in the dryer, wherever you can imagine! The others ask yes/no questions only, i.e. "are you in the kitchen" until they narrow it down to the room, area and then....find you! Kids love this game because it's so fun to hide in places you'd not really fit into. You may have to clarify no hiding between walls and in plumbing!

Hot Seat

Each person takes a turn in the "hot seat" being interviewed by the other passengers. The other passengers can ask any five questions they want of the person in the hot seat, who must answer. The

person in the hot seat can refuse to answer one question by using a veto. Once all the questions have been asked, the hot seat transfers to a new passenger.

Counting Cows

Count the cows you see on your side of the car. If you pass a field full of lots of cows, you'd better count fast! If you pass a cemetery on your side of the car, you lose all your cows, but only if the opposing team calls "your cows are buried!" This game gets interesting when distraction tactics are used to either cause your opponent to miss cows on their side of the road or to miss a cemetery on your side of the road. A white horse can count as a bonus. The team with the most cows wins.

Count Other Stuff

Count blue vans, or count red cars, find 10 horses, count signs, billboards, police cars. Count water towers. How many people pass you on the highway? -- count them too!

The House on the Hill. Who Are They?

Invent stories about the people in the houses as you drive by. What do they do for work? How many kids do they have? Where do they go on vacation? What is their favorite food? How did the parents meet? You can also play this game with people in the cars next to you as well . . . who are they? What is their relationship? Are they a group of spies headed to thwart an international villain? Get creative. The more detailed you get, the more fun it is.

Across the Bridge

When you come to a bridge, pick up your feet (except the driver). See who can hold their feet off the floor the longest.

The Alphabet Game

Start with the letter "A" and find one on a sign, truck, building or license plate, say the word and then move on to the next letter. You can do this as a competition or together as a family for the younger beginning readers. The first one to get to the letter "Z" is the winner!

Fortunately. Unfortunately.

One passenger shares a statement beginning with the word "fortunately" such as "Fortunately, I remembered to buy snacks at the gas station."

Another passenger must follow up with a statement beginning with the word, "unfortunately" such as "Unfortunately, I left them on the counter when I paid."

Hug Bug

Every time a VW Bug comes into view, the first one to see it shouts "Hug Bug!"

I Spy

Look around and pick an object you can see either in the car or along the road. Then give others a clue such as, "I spy with my little eye... something green." or "I spy with my little eye .. something brown and furry." Continue to give more clues until they can guess what it is.

Mystery Writing

One child holds out his hand, flat, and closes his eyes while another child “writes” on his hand with her finger. The first child has to guess what the second person is writing. Start with just letters and if it gets too easy, play with 2 or 3 letter words, pausing between letters.

Twenty Questions

Think of an object, it can be anything as long as it is general. The first question the players will ask is: "Is it classified as Animal, Vegetable, or Mineral", or you can do "Person, Place, or Thing". The players can then ask anything they want about the object as long as you are able to answer "yes" or "no" to their question. They try to ask questions that will help them narrow down their ideas until they are able to guess the object. If they can do it in less than 20 questions, they win!

Play Favorites

This one is a good conversation starter. Go around the car and ask each person their favorite color. Then have everyone think of different "favorite" questions for the group. What's your favorite... movie, flavor of ice cream, song, game, toy, place to visit, restaurant, book, animal, fish, etc. Be creative and don't forget to ask the driver!

Who Am I?

Think of someone you know, friend or relative. Give a few hints like "She has blonde hair and glasses". Let everyone go around one time with their guess. If no one guesses add another hint.

Find 100

Choose a color or an object and then count them until you find 100 of that item. Popular Find 100 items are statues, rivers, water falls, churches, red cars, etc. A competitive variation has each person choose a different item or color of car that passes you and have a race to 100.



**Many thanks to St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Cypress, TX from whom this resource was adapted!*