



Speed answer: Go around the dinner table and everyone gives a quick, one or two word answer to the same question.

listen. paraphrase. **listen more.** paraphrase again. **listen more.** paraphrase. **listen.**

GAME GABBLE: TALK WHILE YOU PLAY BOARD GAMES OR CARD GAMES. BUSY HANDS AND RELAXED ATMOSPHERE MAY HELP.

Kitchen helpers: Having one kid help prepare dinner can open the door to conversation about school.

Ask:

- What book are you reading?
- What was the best part of your lunch?
- Who was absent from class today?
- Who was on the morning announcements?
- What did you play in PE?
- Will you let me guess your favorite part of the morning/ afternoon/ day?
- If your day was a movie, what would the title be?
- What color was your day?
- Which Olympic medal would you give today?
- What do you hope is different tomorrow?

TRAVEL CONVO: When kids are held captive in the car, as you're schlepping everyone from soccer &

Ball toss: Everyone answers the same question, though not at the same time. The speaker holds a ball. He or she tosses the ball to the next person, and that person answers.

Hula hello: Give kids a **hula hoop** and they answer as many questions as they can while hula-hooping.

Question train: You start with one question and choose a person to answer. That person answers and asks another question to the next person. And so on and so on.

Be aware. Be ready. Be kind. No opinions. No advice.***

Listen. Listen. Listen. Listen. Listen. Listen. Listen. Listen. Listen. Listen. Listen. Listen. Listen.



snack chat: while everyone's eating a snack but before homework starts, chat school.

Chore
chats:
chat
while
folding
laundry
or
ironing.
