



Enjoy These Dinnertime Conversation Starters



When is it especially important to say “thank you?” Do you notice when people thank you, or forget to thank you?

Name your favorite tradition for each season, e.g. drinking hot chocolate in winter.

Talk about two things for which you felt thankful or grateful today.

Come up with three silly new traditions for your family. Or the world. Or for aliens on another planet!

How has your understanding of gratitude changed over the years? What did you feel most grateful for when you were younger? And today?

What Earth traditions would you bring to a new space colony? What are some traditions you would definitely leave behind? Why?

Gertrude Stein said, “Silent gratitude isn’t very much to anyone.” Describe the most creative way you’ve ever expressed thanks to someone, or someone has expressed thanks to you.

What is your favorite family tradition? Why?

How do you feel when you receive thank you cards from your friends or when they say ‘thank you’? Why?

What qualities of your mom or dad do you hope to have when you’re older?

Talk about something nice someone did for you this week, or something that made you feel better.

How do your friends/family help you?

What traditions or rituals do you practice in your life right now?

What are 3 things you could give to or do for a close friend that would make him or her happy?

What was your favorite tradition when you were a child? Have you passed that down to future generations? Will you?

Name five people you love most in the world, and why (animals are OK too).

Have you ever participated in a tradition from a culture other than your own? What was it? How did you like it?

Tell a story of eating over at a friend’s house.



Have you met any new kids since you went back to school or daycare? How are they different from you?

If you started your own charity, who or what would it help?

How do you show someone that s/he is special to you?

If you could give one present to the world, what would it be?

What 3 words would you use to describe our family?

Are there lessons you have learned about giving that you could share with others?

Who is your best friend? Why?

Have you ever volunteered? What did you do? Did you enjoy it?

Talk about a time when you showed loyalty to a friend. How about a family member?

Did you do anything to help someone recently? What was it? If not, what could you still do?

Who at school makes it feel fun?

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

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

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 is your favorite thing to do as a family?

Do you know someone who is a giving person? Who is it and what makes them so?

If you had superpowers, what would they be and how would you use them to help people?

Think about someone your family knows who could use a pick-me-up or a helping hand. Who is it and what could you do for him/her?



What's one act of kindness that you have done for someone in the last 6 months?

Have you ever had a fight with a friend? How did you resolve the fight?

What can you give or do for someone that doesn't cost any money?

If you joined the circus, what would your circus act be?

What is something you own and love that you would like to share with someone else?

If you were a season, which season would you be and why?

What was the best gift you ever received?

There's a song that goes: "when the moon hits your eye like a big pizza pie, that's amore..." What other foods does the moon look like?

What is your favorite thing to share with friends?
What is the hardest thing to share?

If you could, would you eat ice cream for every meal?
What flavor?

Have you ever had to end a friendship?
How did you know it had to end?

If you were a utensil, which would you be?

If a friend asks you to keep a secret that you don't feel comfortable keeping, what would you do?

If you founded a new country, what would you call it? What would the flag look like?

What would you do if you saw your friend being bullied?
What about if you saw a stranger being bullied?

Which planet in the solar system would you most like to visit?

If someone gives you a present that you do not want or like, what are some ways to respond?

If you had to give everyone in the family new names, what would those names be?