

5 CONVERSATION STARTERS FOR

Technology Use

Use these free and simple activities to initiate conversations with children about technology; specifically, the role it plays in their lives and how it relates to their faith. They serve as a fun way to bridge the generational gaps in the classroom and at home.

Remember, technology is simply a tool. It can never replace a caring, loving adult who wants the best for kids.

Content Review

Choose an online article, app, video game, tech gadget (i.e., smartwatch, smart speaker, tablet), social media platform, or an online video to review. Watch, read, or learn about what you selected as a class or send it home for families to review together. Then have everyone separately write a critical review of that content/tool. Compare your reviews. You'll be surprised how your opinions differ or align and what stood out to kids.



Describe in 3 Words

Pick an inspiring image online (Pinterest is a great place for inspiration) and ask kids to describe the visual in three words. Next, pick three to five more images that vary in color, subject matter, scenery, and purpose. Display the images together and ask the class which one inspires them most. Have children share which image they selected, three words that describe it best, and why it inspires them. It is interesting to see what they pick and why. The images don't really matter; what matters is the conversation!



Meme Off

You are probably familiar with memes even if you don't know them by this name or view them online. These cleverly captioned pictures are designed to be virtual jokes that poke fun at popular culture, common experiences, human behavior, etc. Memes have been around for a long time, but kids are great at discovering the newest viral image. Much like a caption contest, have your kids create a meme to represent the theme of a story from Scripture or something happening in their lives. This entertaining activity is a great way to open a discussion!



Tutorials

Our classrooms are filled with expertise. Feature your kids as content experts. Have them create tutorial videos starring themselves sharing their knowledge or gift! It can be as simple as how to genuflect, how to properly put on an alb, or something more complex depending on their age. The important thing is that you featured them doing something positive that they are confident in doing.



Vintage Tech Talks

Go to your local thrift store, reach out to members of your parish, or do an online search for images or actual relics of past technologies that your kids have never used. Have kids theorize what fax machines and pagers were used for and how they worked. Show the evolution of tech gadgets such as phones, computers, televisions, gaming devices, vacuums, calculators, etc. This engaging activity will give kids a glimpse into how different your childhood technology world was from theirs. (Parents will get a laugh watching kids theorize about these tech tools from the past, too.)

