

Guiding/Prompting Questions for Circles

This document is a collection of Guiding/Prompting Questions that can be used as part of a Circle process. These questions may be most suited for Proactive Circles in which participants are working toward building relationships, but experienced Circle Keepers may find some of the questions suitable as part of a Circle that addresses conflict or difficult conversations. You may find other ways to utilize these questions outside of Circle, such as using them as part of getting acquainted games, conversation starters, etc., but even the simplest of these questions can be a powerful connector for participants when utilized as part of a Circle process that is composed with fidelity.

As defined by Carolyn Boyes-Watson and Kay Pranis in the book *Circle Forward: Building A Restorative School Community*, “Circle (process) is a carefully constructed, intentional dialogue space...based on key teachings common among Indigenous communities”. For anyone who practices Circle, especially within a school setting, we highly encourage *Circle Forward* as one of the best resources for Circles in schools.

Aided by the distinct elements of Mindfulness, Opening/Closing Ceremony, Talking Piece, Centerpiece, Values and Guidelines, Circle process is about creating an intentional space where participants (youth or adults) are able to practice listening and truly hearing one another without interruption. Creating this type of space allows participants to connect on a deep level and paves a way for building relationships, empathy, and understanding between members of the Circle.

Part of being a Circle Keeper is the ability to find the right question for the right group at the right time. Posing the right question at the right time can be quite magical and just the same, there may be a *wrong* time to ask a particular question. It is important for the Circle Keeper to know their group and which question(s) will be best received by all members of the Circle. It is important to recognize that even the most lighthearted question can lead to a distressing response from a member of the Circle. Therefore, we recommend those who use these questions as part of a Circle process have adequate experience with participating in Circle prior to serving as Circle Keeper.

To be intentional in helping Circle participants make connections, we encourage you to add on the question “Why?” to any of the questions in this document. For example, for the question “What is your favorite color?”, add “What is your favorite color, and why?” Additionally, we highly encourage any question round be followed by a second round with the question “After you’ve heard everyone’s response, did anyone say anything that connected with you, even in a small way, and/or did you notice any themes about the things people shared?” These subtleties can make a great difference in the group’s ability to connect in a deep way.

We also encourage Circle Keepers to incorporate movement, writing, and drawing into their Circle practice, especially for youth. Some people are better at expressing themselves by writing or drawing so giving those options or having some rounds where everyone in the Circle writes or draws their response before sending around the Talking Piece can be important.

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Checking in

- Share one word that describes your current mood.
- Share one high and one low from your day/week so far.
- In exactly six words, express how you are feeling today.
- On a scale of 1-10, how rested do you feel?
- On a scale of 1-10 how present do you feel? (1 = least, 10 = most)
- On a scale of 1-10 how much energy do you have today? (1 = lowest, 10 = highest)
- What is a color that describes your mood today?
- What is an emoji that represents how you are feeling today?
- On an index card, take one minute to draw an image that illustrates how you are feeling today.
- Describe (or draw) how you are feeling today using a weather pattern.
- What is one thing you need from others to be/work at your best today?
- Inhale to the count of 3 and exhale to the count of 6. What is one thing you would like to inhale or welcome into your day today?
- Take 3 deep breathes, inhaling to the count of 4 and exhaling to the count of 8. What do you want to exhale and let go of today?
- What is a sound that represents your current mood? Make a sound and we will all copy it.
- What short phrase do you need to say out loud to clear your mind?
- What animal represents how you are feeling today?
- If you could rewind your day and change one part of it, what would it be?
- Share one word or short phrase that describes something that you are thinking about as you came into the room.
- What is a short phrase that describes how you want people to treat you today?
- What is one thing you would like to compliment yourself on today?
- Share one word or a short phrase that represents the emotions you are bringing into the room today.
- What is one thing that happened today/this week that is standing out in your mind?
- What superhero power do you need to make it through the day today?
- What do you want your peers to see about you this morning that might not be visible from the outside?
- What is a song that describes how you are feeling or what you are thinking about today?
- What is a short reminder that you would like to say to yourself today?
- What movements do you need to let out before we begin today?
- How full is your attention gas tank today? 100% full means you are completely present. 50% full means you are partially present. 0% full means you are not present at all.
- What is one thing you are hoping to get out of today?
- What is one thing you are hoping to accomplish today?
- What season describes how you are feeling today?

Kindness

- What is one of the kindest things you have done for someone?
- What is one of the kindest things someone has done for you?
- What is one kind thing you have done today? (Could let students know this will be the question for the end of the day/week circle so that they can make mental notes of kind things they do throughout the day/week).
- What is one kind thing you can do tomorrow?
- What type of service to others or good deed done for other people do you personally find most rewarding?
- What are some ways you can make another person feel accepted and valued?

Responsibility

- What is responsibility?
- What does it mean for you to be responsible?
- What are some examples of situations when you felt you exhibited responsible behavior?
- What are some examples of situations in which someone else acted in a way that you thought was responsible?
- Describe a responsible decision/action you have taken that you are proud of?
- Describe a responsible decision/action that someone else did that made you feel proud of them?
- How do you determine right from wrong?
- How do you (How can you) help someone who is having difficulty following the rules?
- What is one responsibility you wish you didn't have?

Cooperation

- What is cooperation?
- What does it mean for you to be cooperative?
- What are some examples of situations when you felt you exhibited cooperative behavior?
- How do you feel when you cooperate? How do you think others feel when you cooperate?
- What are some examples of situations in which someone else acted in a way that you thought was cooperative?
- Describe a situation or activity where you believe cooperation is essential.
- Describe a situation or activity where you believe cooperation/cooperating would not be helpful. (Example: Going along with peer pressure).

Personal Qualities

- What is one quality about yourself that you appreciate?
- What is something that others see as one of your best qualities?
- If you could change anything about yourself what would it be?
- What is one skill or talent you have, or wish you had?
- If you had to describe your personality in terms of a farm animal which animal would you choose?
- Which month of the year do you think would best describe your personality?
- If you had to write your own personal definition of the word "Success," what would it be?
- If you had to wear a button with a maximum of six words on it describing your outlook on life, what would your button say?
- Which musical instrument do you think would best describe your personality?
- If you had a personal flag, what would be on it?

Names

- Do you know how your first and/or middle name was chosen? Were you named after anyone?
- Have you ever wished you had a different name? If so, what would you choose as your name?
- If, instead of writing out your name, you now had to "sign" your name with a simple drawing of something, what would you draw each time to represent who you are?
- Which punctuation mark would best describe your personality?
- If your name were given as the description for any one word in the dictionary, behind what word would people find your name? (Example: Hilarious: John Smith).
- If you had to rearrange the letters of your name to give yourself a new name, what would your new name be?
- Suppose instead of having a name, you had a letter, and people would always refer to you as that letter. Which letter of the alphabet would you want to take the place of your name?

Motivation

- Of all the great success stories that you have heard or read about, which ones do you find the most inspiring?
- What is an accomplishment in your life that you are proud of?
- What is one thing you have accomplished that, back when you began doing it, you thought was going to be impossible to achieve?
- What is something in your life that you are thankful for?
- What is something that gives you hope?
- What is something you are passionate about?
- What motivates you to do your best?
- What is a goal you have for yourself?
- What is something you can do for yourself to celebrate when you accomplish a goal?
- What is something you can do for others to celebrate when they accomplish a goal?
- What positive thought or quote would you like to have copied and put into a million fortune cookies?

Happiness/Laughing/Being Silly

- When was the last time you laughed so hard you cried?
- What is one of the silliest things you have ever done?
- What is one of the silliest things that has ever happened to you?
- What is something that made you smile recently?
- What is something that you have done recently that you thought was fun?
- What is something that always makes you laugh?
- Dogs wag their tails when they're happy. What is something you often do when you're feeling happy?
- What is something that brings you joy?
- If you were making a list of five things (not people) that make you happy, what five things would you write down?

Good & Bad days

- Whenever you are having a bad day, what is the best thing you can do to help cheer yourself up?
- Whenever you are having a bad day, what is one thing that helps cheer you up?
- What is something you are carrying on your shoulders that might be weighing you down today?
- What are some small things that help make your day better?
- How do you relax after a hard/stressful day?
- What sustains you/keeps you going during difficult times?

Role Models, Heroes, Friendship and Advice

- Name two things or people who always make you laugh.
- Name two people who you think are good role models for young people.
- Who are some of your heroes?
- What is the best piece of advice you have ever received?
- What is one piece of advice that you wish you could pass along to everyone else?
- What is something courageous that someone has done that you admire?
- What particular quality above all others do you look for when choosing your friends?
- What do you think is the most important thing that friends can do for each other?
- What are some things you appreciate about someone who is important to you in your life?
- Who is someone that understands you? What does it take for someone to understand you? How do you tell if someone understands you? Who is someone who you understand?
- Think of a set of friends from a book, TV show or movie you've seen. What makes them friends? What holds them together as friends?

School

- What is the most interesting class/course you have ever taken in school?
- What is a class/course that you have taken that you wished wouldn't have ended?
- If you could become fully enlightened instantly on any one subject, which subject would you choose?
- If you were a teacher, what are three rules you would insist that your students follow?
- If you could start a new club at school, what kind of club would you start?
- If your school told you that you could invite anyone to come and talk to your class, whom would you invite?
- If you could change the lunch menu at (school/home) what would you change?
- If you could change one thing (and only one thing) about school what would it be?
- What is one subject currently not being taught in your school that you would like to see added?
- Who is/was a teacher in your life that influenced you in a positive way?
- Describe what a peaceful school (classroom, community, etc.) looks like to you.
- Close your eyes and imagine our classroom in a month from now. What are some of the good things you see/envision? What are some things we can do now until then to help those things come true?
- Most/all people get upset or frustrated from time to time. At some point in this school year, you may feel upset or frustrated by something. When that happens, what will you need from others to help you get through that situation?
- Write a school Bill of Rights – 5 rights and responsibilities that you think are important for a “good” school.

Books

- If you could have any book instantly memorized cover to cover, which book would you choose?
- If you were a teacher, what is one book you would insist that your whole class read?
- If you were to write a book, what would you choose as the topic?
- If you were writing an autobiography, what would be the book's title (besides your name)?
- If you could bring to life any fictional character from a book or movie, whom would you choose?
- If you were a reporter, what kinds of stories would you like to write about?
- What is one of your favorite books?
- If you could be editor in chief of any magazine, having significant input as to the style and content of the publication, which magazine would you choose?
- If you wrote a book about yourself/your life, what design would be on the front cover of the book?

Music

- In your opinion what is the best piece of music ever written? Or what is one of your favorite songs?
- If you could have any musician record a song that you wrote, which musician would you choose?
- If you could see any musician in concert who would you choose?
- If you the opportunity to record a duet with any singer living or deceased, whom would you choose as your duet partner?
- If you were a songwriter drawing from recent experiences in your own life as material for your next big hit, what would be the song's title?
- What is one of your favorite songs? Song lyrics?
- If you could get a one-hour singing lesson from any musician, whom would you want to give you the lesson?

Movies

- If you could change the ending to any movie you have ever seen, what movie would it be and how would you alter the way it ends?

- What is your all-time favorite scene from a movie or television show?
- If you were told that you could watch only one television show for the next 12 months, which show would you choose to watch?
- Do you have a movie or television show that you love so much that you watch it over and over again?
- What popular movie or television show do you refuse to watch?
- Think of a character in a movie, TV show or book. What are 2-3 things you like or admire about that character?

Sports/Athletics

- If you could watch any sports team play in person, which sports team would it be?
- If you could watch any athlete play in person, who would it be?
- What is a sporting event that you would attend if you could?
- If you could be a sports commentator for any sporting event, what event would you choose?
- If you could be a sports commentator for a national sporting event and had to select someone to be a commentator with you, who would you choose?
- If you could have been there to witness any specific moment in sports history, what moment would you choose?
- If you had the ability to compete in any Olympic event, which one would you choose?
- What is one sports accomplishment that someone else has achieved that you wish you could achieve too?
- If you could change one rule about your favorite sport, which rule would you change?
- Which of the following would you like to be most of all: really strong, really fast, or really tall?
- If you could create a new sport by combining various elements of two existing sports, which two sports would you combine and how would people play your new sport?
- If you could get a one-hour lesson from any professional athlete, whom would you want to give you the lesson?

Computers, Video Games & Cell Phones

- What is your favorite video game to play?
- What is your favorite phone app?
- How would you describe the perfect cell phone for you? What would it look like? What would it all do?
- What TV channel or YouTube channel doesn't exist but should?
- What video games doesn't exist but should?
- What phone app doesn't exist but should?
- If you could have a video of any event or memory in your life, what event/memory would you choose?
- Almost everyone can recall a missed photo/video opportunity because they did not have a camera. What moment do you wish you could have caught on camera?

Animals

- If you had the ability to do something that only an animal can do, what animal "skill" would you want to have?
- In your opinion, what would be the most enjoyable thing about being a dog or cat?
- If, instead of saying "hi", you had to greet people by making the sound of a farm animal, which animal sound would you choose as your greeting?
- If any wild animal of your choice could live and roam in your neighborhood, which animal would you want it to be? (Assume that both the animal and the people would be safe).
- If you could have a bumblebee-sized version of any animal as a pet, which animal would you choose?
- If you were an animal, what animal would you be?
- What is an animal that you would like to have as a pet?

- If you could enter a racehorse in the Kentucky Derby, what would you name your horse?
- If you could bring to life any imaginary creature, or bring back to life any animal that is now extinct, which creature/animal would you choose?

Historical Events

- In your opinion, what is the most significant event that has occurred in world history during the last (ex. ten, fifty, hundred, thousand) years? (You may define “significant” however you wish.)
- If you could have a face-to-face conversation with someone alive or deceased who would it be?
- If you could hear any historical speech in person, which speech would you choose to hear?
- Which particular historical document (or portion thereof) do you think every person should know by heart?
- If you could walk into any painting and actually experience the moment or scene that it depicts, which painting would you choose to enter?

Looking back

- If your life were flashing before your eyes, what are three moment or scenes from your past that you would expect to stand out?
- When you look back on your life what in particular amazes you the most?
- What is the most exciting event you have ever witnessed?
- If you could get one thing back that was either lost or destroyed, what would it be?
- What is one of the greatest lessons you have learned in life?
- What is the most exciting (important, memorable) thing you’ve learned in the past 12 months?
- What is something you forgot once that you will more than likely never forget again?
- Through the use of a time machine, you are traveling back to the year 1850. You may take with you one, and only one, product or invention from the modern era. What would you take with you to impress and awe our forebears?
- If you could go back in time and ask any famous person in history one question, whom would you question and what would you ask? (Assume that you would be given a completely honest answer.)
- If you had been a kid living in the 1800s, what aspect of life do you think would have been the most difficult?
- What is something you always used to love to do that, in the last year or two, you feel like you’ve outgrown or lost interest in doing?
- If you could bring back any tradition that seems to have faded into the past, what tradition would you bring back?

Looking Ahead

- What event or activity in the next few months are you looking forward?
- If you could see the front page of a national newspaper dated January 1, 2100, what do you imagine some of headlines might say?
- If you were given the chance to travel into the future to see how the world will change over the next 50 years, what change in particular would you be most interested in?
- What particular aspect of being an adult are you looking forward to the most?
- When you’re an adult do you think you will still want to live close to where you do right now? Why or why not?
- What is one thing you’re fairly certain you’ll good at when you’re an adult?
- If you could go to sleep tonight and wake up tomorrow morning older than you are, what age would you want to be when you open your eyes?
- What are you most curious to learn about as you get older?

- What is one problem you see in our country/world that you hope is resolved by the time you become an adult?

Design & Creativity

- If you had to create a brand-new letter to be added to the alphabet, what would this new letter look like and how would you pronounce it?
- If you had to create a brand-new word to be added to the dictionary, how would you spell it, how would you pronounce it, and what would be its definition?
- If you could build a structure so enormous that it could be seen from space, what would you build and what purpose would it serve?
- If you could create the ultimate roller coaster, what would the ride be like?
- If you could create a building made entirely of a natural product, what would it be made of? (Example: There is a building in South Dakota, The Corn Palace, entirely covered in real cobs of corn!)
- Describe the perfect house for you. Be specific.
- If you could design a t-shirt, what would you draw or write on it?
- If you were asked to design a brand-new building that would be the tallest in the world, what would it look like?
- If you could paint a giant mural on the ceiling of your bedroom, what scene or images would you paint?
- If you could make a super fun obstacle course for yourself and your friends, where would you build it and what challenges and obstacles would you include?
- If you could carve any image you wanted into the side of a mountain, what would you sculpt?
- Create a school logo or mascot. (Draw the logo/mascot and then share/describe to the group).

Dreaming Big

- If you were given a \$100 gift certificate to spend in any store, where would you choose to redeem it?
- If you were a millionaire, where would you be and what do you believe you would be doing at this very moment?
- If you were given \$1,000 but told that it had to be used to help somebody else, for whom and what purpose would you want the money used?
- If you won \$1,000 as part of a contest, how would you spend the money?
- What big ideas or dreams do you have right now that you would like to see come true someday?
- If you won one million dollars tomorrow, what are the first three things you would do or buy as soon as you had the money?
- If you could have any 3 wishes granted, what would they be?

Birthdays

- If you could've been born on any holiday, which holiday would you choose?
- If you could spend your birthday doing anything at all, what would you choose to do?
- If you could have your birthday cake created in any shape or object, what would you choose?

Food

- If your taste buds could be altered so that the taste of any one food would be dramatically intensified whenever you ate it, which food would you choose?
- If snow could fall in any flavor, what flavor would you choose?
- If you owned an ice cream shop and had to put an edible surprise in the bottom of every ice cream cone that you sold, what would customers discover at the end of their sweet treats?
- If, for your next birthday, someone offered to make you the ultimate dessert of your choice, what great concoction would you request? Be specific!

- If you could cover any food in chocolate just to see what it would taste like, what food would you choose?
- What do you think is the worst thing you could eat before getting your teeth cleaned by a dentist?
- What is your favorite candy or candy bar?
- If you could create a new candy bar, what would you name it and what would be inside of it?
- If you could enter a food-eating contest, which food would you be the most delighted to eat?
- If you could create the ultimate sandwich what ingredients would you put between the two slices of bread?
- If you could have a year's supply of cotton candy in any flavor of your choice, which flavor would you choose?
- Describe the perfect dinner-what would you have for the appetizer, main meal, drink, and dessert?
- If you were a vegetable, which one would you be?
- If you were a fruit, which one would you be?

Jobs

- What is one field or profession that you think you might be good at?
- Describe your ideal job.
- If you could open your own retail store, what type of merchandise would you sell?
- If you could be the spokesperson for any product, what product would you choose to enthusiastically represent?
- If you could be the CEO of any corporation in the world, which one would you choose?
- If you were given the opportunity to be an apprentice or intern to any person, living or deceased, from whom would you want to learn?
- If you could take any job for just one month, what job would you like to have? (Assume that you would have the skills and knowledge to perform the job adequately).
- If you could get out of school for a week to spend five days helping an adult at their job, what job would you want to help out with during that week?
- If you could start a new business, what would you start?
- What do you think should be the minimum age for employment? Should it be different for certain jobs?

Weather

- What is the most incredible or unique weather event you've ever been through in your life?
- If the daytime temperature had to be exactly the same every day of the year, what would you want the temperature to be?
- If rain could fall in any scent, what scent would you want it to be?
- If, just for once, an accumulating snow could fall in a color other than white, which color would you want the snow to be?
- If you could create the perfect weather day, mixing together in one day any and all elements of weather that you like, how would the day unfold?
- If, just for once, an accumulating snow could fall in a color other than white, which color would you want the snow to be?

Years/Months/Weeks

- If you could permanently remove one month from the year, which month would you want to be rid of forever?
- What is your favorite time of the day? Day of the week? Day of the year? Week of the year? Month of the year?
- What is your favorite season of the year?

- Besides your real birthday, what is one other date on the calendar that you think would have been a great day to be born?
- If any one of the national holidays had to be celebrated twice a year, six months apart, which one would you want it to be?
- What is your favorite sight, scent, and sound for each of the four seasons?

Vacation/Travel

- If you were asked to create the ultimate vacation destination, where would it be located and what would it be like?
- If you had the time and money and could go on any month-long summer adventure of your choice, what would you choose to do?
- What is the most beautiful or best drive you have ever taken? Or where is someplace you would like to take a drive to/through? Be as descriptive as possible.
- What is the greatest distance you have ever driven in a single day?
- If you could be a tour guide for any city, what city would you choose?
- If you could live in any state other than the one in which you currently reside, which state would you choose?
- If you could stand at the tip or outer most edge of any natural site or human-made structure, what would it be?
- If you could take a ride on anything in the world, what would you most want to ride?
- If you were an airline pilot and were told to choose any route that you would have to fly for your entire career, what two cities would your flights connect?
- If you could have any place in the world completely to yourself for one day, what place would you choose?
- If you could float in a hot air balloon over any city or place in the world, what would you choose to float over?
- What is one vacation destination that many people think is fabulous, but which you personally have no desire to visit (or revisit)?
- If you could watch the sunrise (or sunset) anywhere in the world, where would it be?
- If you could go camping anywhere in the world, where would you camp?
- If you had to spend an entire summer working at a national park or historical site, which one would you choose?
- If, for one month, you could live at any famous residence or house in the entire world, which one would you choose?
- If you could experience a sailing adventure/cruise on any river, lake, or ocean in the world, what body of water would you choose?
- If you could design any new ride at an amusement park, what would the ride be?
- If you could be anywhere in the world for New Year's Eve this year, where would you most want to be?
- If you had to spend an entire weekend living in any store of your choice, which store would you want to stay in?
- If you had to choose between exploring outer space or the bottom of the deepest ocean, which one would you choose?
- If you could safely take a ride on the back of any wild animal, which animal would you choose?
- If you could mail yourself to any place in the world tonight, where would you want to be delivered?
- If you could visit any home in the United States/world, whose home would you choose to visit?
- If you could sleep in a different place each night for a week, what seven places would you select (The locations can be anywhere in the world!)

Miscellaneous

- Suppose that income taxes still had to be paid, but instead of going to the government, your tax dollars would go to any cause or charity of your choice. Assuming the money would have to go to the same place each year, where would you want it to go?
- If, with your safety guaranteed, you could experience something considered very dangerous what would you choose to experience?
- What is something you collect, or something you'd like to collect?
- What can you tell us about your shoes? Tell us as much as you can. Where did you get them? How long have you had them? Are they comfortable? How often do you wear them?
- If you could have 50 pounds of anything other than money, what would you want?
- If, like the newspaper, you could have anything of your choice delivered to your doorstep every morning, what particular item would you want it to be?
- What is one item you own that you really should throw away...but probably never will?
- In your opinion, what is the most beautiful human-made object in the world?
- If you could have 1,000 of anything red (blue, green, etc.), what would you want most of all?
- Instead of fighting wars, what do you think would be a good, perhaps creative, way for countries to settle their differences with each other?
- What is your favorite loud sound?
- If you could wake up every morning, open your bedroom blinds, and look out a huge glass window at the perfect view, what would that view be?
- If you could have any object in the world completely to yourself for one day, what object would you choose?
- What is the longest line you have ever stood in?
- What is the best \$10 you have ever spent in your life?
- What is the best or worst haircut you have ever gotten?
- If you could pick an age to be for the rest of your life, what age would you pick?
- What world record would you most want to establish/hold if you could?
- If you were a professional artist, what would be the theme of your drawing/paintings?
- What is something you enjoy doing that other people might consider to be a chore or a bore?
- If you could be a superhero, what superpowers would you choose?
- If everyone were required to wear a hat at all times, what sort of hat would you wear?
- If you had an unexpected free day, what would you do?
- If you had to come up with one question for a national opinion poll, what question would you most want to pose?
- If you could have the voice of any famous person, living or deceased, whose voice would you want to have?
- What is one item you own that has little monetary value but has such sentimental value to you that you wouldn't sell it for \$1,000.
- What "moment of glory" have you watched another person celebrate that you too would love to experience if you could?
- If a local radio station offered to let you have your own 30-minute show each weekday morning, what type of show would you have?
- What is one of your favorite sayings or quotes?
- What particular aspect of being a kid do you think adults miss the most?
- If you could put any message you wanted on a billboard along a busy highway, what would the billboard say? (You can only have up to 10 words).
- If you met a 100-year-old person and could ask that individual one question about their life, what would you be most curious to find out?
- Which cartoon character do you think would be the most fun to hang out with for an afternoon?

- If you could permanently eliminate one color from the world, which color would it be?
- If you had to choose a new city to serve as our nation's capital, which city would you choose?
- What are three things that you think make our country a great place nation to live in?
- What is your favorite thing that begins with the letter "W"?
- What is your favorite number?
- If you could know the secret behind any magic trick, which one would you want to know?
- If you were creating a movie about toys coming to life, what type of toy would be the main character?
- If you had to work on a farm for one week during the summer, what particular job or chore do you think would be the most fun to do?
- If you lived on a farm, which chore above all others would you definitely not want to do?
- If you could be any person instead of yourself today, who would you be?
- If all your clothes could only be one color, what color would you choose?
- If you were invisible for a day, what would you do?
- What three items would you take if you knew you were going to stranded on a tropical island for a year?
- If you could visit any assembly plant or factory of your choice to see exactly how something is made from start to finish, what would you want to see being produced?
- If you could convince all of your friends to share your opinion about one thing, what would you want it to be?
- If you could be guaranteed that one item you currently own would never break, wear out, or get lost, which item would you choose?
- In your opinion, what is the greatest thing ever invented or discovered?
- If you could take a running jump into a pool filled with any object, liquid, or substance of your choice, what would you want the pool to be filled with?
- If you were the first ruler of a new country, what is the first law that you would write for the nation's people?
- If a local TV station offered to let you host your very own kid's show once a week, what would the show be about and who else would star with you on the show?
- If you could write a letter or send an email to anyone in the world, knowing it would be opened and read, to whom would you send it and what would it say?
- If you could be part of a large parade, what would you want to be doing in the parade?
- If you were in charge of planning something really special that could cheer up a group of sick people at a nearby hospital, what would you plan?
- If you were one inch tall for a day, what specific places would you most like to explore?
- If you could take any landmark or geographic feature from another state or country and move it to the area where you live, what would you choose?
- What is something that many, perhaps most, adults do that seems silly to you?
- If you could put anything really unusual in your backyard for you and your friends to play in, on, or around, what uncommon thing would you put there?
- If you could host a competition in your town where participants would try to break a world record, what particular event would you want to see people competing in?
- What is your dream car?
- What is the most relaxing place you've ever been to?
- What is something you would not want to change about your life?
- What is something you value about yourself?
- What is something you value about our community (school, class, etc.)?
- Who is someone in your life that has helped you grow?
- What is something you dreamed about when you were a young child?
- What does it mean for you to be prepared for something?
- What does it mean for you to be responsible?

- What are some ways you show respect to other people?
- What does “Be respectful” mean to you?
- What does “Be polite” mean to you?
- What does honesty mean to you?
- What is one of the best compliments you have ever received?
- Who is your most interesting friend?
- What mistake do you keep making again and again?
- What is something you can never seem to finish?
- If you could have a never-ending candle that smelled like anything you wanted, what fragrance would you want it to be?
- What do you wish your brain was better at doing?
- When was the last time you changed your belief/opinion about something?
- If you could make one rule that everyone had to follow, what rule would you make?
- How do you feel when you are blamed for a problem?
- What is your definition of “peace”?
- What are some things you do to show that you are listening to someone?
- Where do you think would be the most fun to have a treasure/scavenger hunt?
- If you were given 5,000 ping-pong balls, what would you do with them?
- What do you think it means to speak from the heart? To listen from the heart?

Resources

Circle Forward: Building A Restorative School Community by Carolyn Boyes-Watson and Kay Pranis
Available at www.livingjusticepress.com

Relationship Building Cue Cards, Circle Up Education
Available at www.circleuped.org

Chat Packs
Available at www.TheQuestionGuys.com

Yo! Activity & Skill Cards for Young Teens
National Resource Center for Youth Services