

Dinner Discussion **Flashcards**

Directions for **adults**

Use the flashcard deck to create a discussion around work-related topics at your family table. These cards can be used more than once. Set the stage by telling kids that there are no wrong answers. This is suitable for all ages. Just tailor your conversation to your kids.

1. What's most important to you at work?

- What you're doing?
- Who you're working with?
- How much you are earning?
- Or something else?

The purpose of these questions is to get kids thinking about trade-offs and work-life balance. Choosing a career is about prioritizing what is most important to you. For example, if you wish to work outside, you may need to start earlier in the day so that you catch daylight. In that case, you can't be a late sleeper! Help kids to understand that it's important to consider priorities and values, in addition to skills and interests when thinking about work. Prompt kids with, "Why?" so that they share more than a yes-or-no answer.

2. What do you like to do? Can you think of a job where you might do that?

Kids often give a school subject or a hobby. Keep them talking by asking them why they like that subject or activity, and help them to think about jobs where those skills or interests are used. If your child says, "I like animals," there are all kinds of jobs, from zookeeper, to vet tech, to animal trainer, to animal-assisted therapist, to veterinarian where you can work with animals. If you can't think of a job that incorporates your kid's interests, research it together.

3. What did you learn at your first job?

This is one for the adults! Think about your very first job. Did you learn a skill, or did you learn something about yourself. Share something that you learned, even if it's negative - I learned that I didn't like to stand on my feet for 8 hours a day, so I wanted to do jobs where I sat at a desk. Encourage your kids to think about things they like and don't like and relate them to jobs.

4. Do you think you'd like to be your own boss or work for someone else? Why?

This is an opportunity to discuss different kinds of jobs, from working in a company, to having a number of different "gigs" in which you do contract work for different people or companies, to becoming an entrepreneur and starting your own business. Find out what your kid is thinking and discuss the pros of each approach to work.

5. Do you think you'd like to work in an office or from home? What's good and bad about each?

This generation of kids has more experience with remote work (and school) than any other! What have they learned about remote work and collaboration? Find out their impressions and share your own successes and frustrations.

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Question 1

What's most important to you at **work?**

- What you're doing?
- Who you're working with?
- How much you are earning?
- Or something else?

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Question 2

What do you like to do?
Can you think of a **job** where you might do that?

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Question 3

What did you **learn** at your first job?

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Question 4

Do you think you'd like to be your own **boss** or work for someone else? Why?

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Question 5

Do you think you'd like to work in an **office** or from **home?** What's good and bad about each?