



AI Conversation Starters

Ages 8-11 | Building healthy AI habits through calm conversations

How to use: Cut out these conversation cards and keep them handy. Pick one each week to start a natural, pressure-free chat about AI with your child. Listen more than you lecture—these are meant to open dialogue, not test knowledge.

✂ Cut along the dotted lines ✂

Getting Started

'Have you used any robot helpers or AI tools at school this week?'

Let them explain what the tool does. Show genuine interest in their answer.

Understanding AI

'If you asked an AI a question, how do you think it knows the answer?'

Gently explain: AI guesses based on patterns, it doesn't 'know' like people do.

Spotting AI

'Have you seen any videos or pictures online that looked a bit strange or too perfect?'

Talk about AI-generated images and why some things online aren't real.

Homework Help

'If you got stuck on homework, would you ask me, a friend, or an AI tool first? Why?'

This reveals their default—help shape better habits without judgment.

AI vs People

'What's the difference between talking to Alexa/Siri and talking to a friend?'

Emphasize that AI can't care about them, even if it seems friendly.

Making Mistakes

'Has AI ever given you a wrong answer or something that didn't make sense?'

Reinforce that AI makes mistakes—we always need to double-check.

Privacy Basics

'What do you think AI remembers about what you tell it?'

Explain: Never share your name, school, address, or personal feelings with AI.

Feelings Check

'If AI said something that made you feel confused or uncomfortable, what would you do?'

Reassure them: They can always tell you without getting in trouble.

Creative Play

'Would you use AI to help write a story? What would you want AI to do, and what would you want to do yourself?'

Encourage them to see AI as a helper for ideas, not the creator.

Learning vs Cheating

'What's the difference between using AI to understand something and using it to do your work for you?'

Help them draw the line: AI can explain, but can't learn for you.

Future Thinking

'When you're a grown-up, what do you think AI will be able to do?'

This opens up big-picture thinking and lets you address any fears calmly.

Family Rules

'Should our family have rules about when and how we use AI? What rules do you think would make sense?'

Co-create boundaries together—kids follow rules they help make.

