

Family Literacy Engagement Grab & Go: Table Topics

This activity would be best used by: ☑Schools ☑Families

Materials:

- a bowl or basket
- strips of paper big enough to write on
- something to write with

Steps:

- 1. Write down as many topics as you can think of to talk about with your child and put one on each strip of paper. You can let your child help think of topics too. Topics can be as simple (animals, sports, foods, etc.) or as creative (If you could take one thing with you to a deserted island, what would it be? What's something funny that happened today?) as you like and can vary depending on your child's age and interests. Search the internet for lists of ideas, topics, and questions you can use.
- 2. Put all of the topics in a bowl or basket. You can add more at any time!
- 3. Pick a time (every day, once a week, or some other time frame) to let your child randomly choose one topic. Have a detailed conversation with your child about the topic. Ask each other as many questions as you can think of to deepen your conversation.

Lagniappe:

Set a timer for five minutes to talk about the chosen topic. You could also take turns and set a timer for each person to have one minute to talk at a time. Take at least two turns. Include other family members to add even more fun responses to the conversation.

Teachers can use this activity too by having a topic of the day or month and facilitate discussions as a morning or afternoon activity.

If your child becomes increasingly interested in a particular topic, conduct additional research on the internet or go to the local library to check out books on the topic.

