

Fun Ways to Start a Technology Conversation With Your Kid

The best way to support your child in the digital age is through open and honest communication about what they see and experience online. But how can we get them to open up, rather than roll their eyes? Check out these ideas to start conversations that your kids want to talk about!

1. Try a game of **What's Better?**

- Present your kid with two choices, “What is better? TikTok or YouTube?” and follow up their answer with another question, “Why?” Listen to their answers and ask more questions about what you hear. Be ready to offer your opinion too!
- Here are a few **What's Better?** ideas to get you started:
 - Roblox or Minecraft
 - Netflix or Hulu
 - Texting or Snapchatting
 - Facetiming or Calling
 - Discord or Twitch

2. Ask interesting questions about your kid's experiences using digital tools:

- What is the weirdest thing you saw on the internet today?
- What is the viral video everyone is talking about right now?
- What is the most cringe worthy thing you saw someone post?
- Which one of your friends has the most social media followers?
- What is something you saw online that ...
 - made you laugh?
 - made you feel inspired?
 - made you stop and think?
 - changed your mind?

3. Share your own digital experiences. Be sure to include examples of when you got it wrong and learned from the experience:

- Have I ever told you about ...
 - My most popular social media post ever?
 - How I decide what to post and what to keep private?
 - How I make decisions about who to follow on social media?
- Let me tell you about a time when ...
 - I fell for misinformation.
 - I posted something I regretted later.
 - My friend posted something that embarrassed me.
 - I got in an argument online.

Remember, having conversations about your family's digital life when things are going well helps you to build trust, honesty, and rapport with your child that will be invaluable when it is time to have a more difficult conversation.