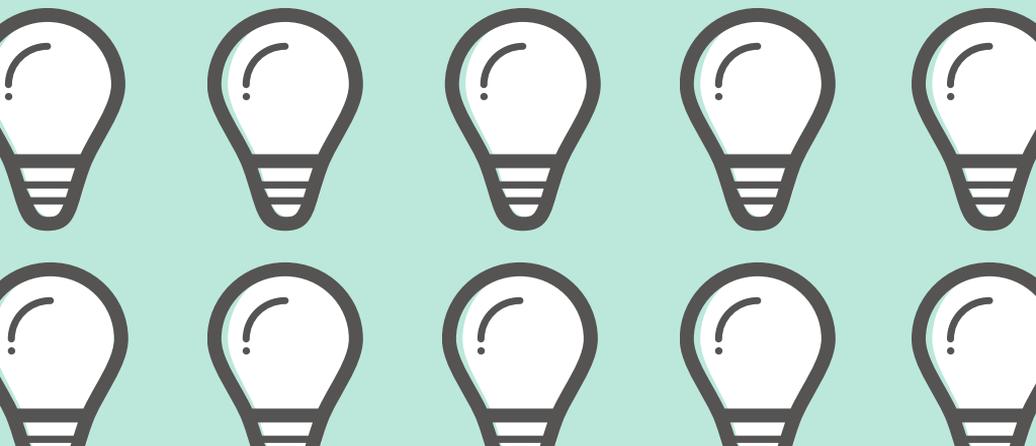




101 CONVERSATION
STARTERS

MEALTIME MUSINGS

Noggin Nuggets for Fun Families



CONCEIVED AND WRITTEN

BY

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Hello Dear Reader, and Welcome to Mealtime Musings!

Since you are here, I am guessing you are someone - or someones - who likes to have fun while you eat. You love your family and you want to actually converse with them. You have regular family meals (kudos!) and see them as an opportunity to connect and nourish not only bodies, but also relationships. You, my friend, have come to the right place. Inside you will find 101 conversation starters and noggin nuggets to get things going.

Some of these are silly, some are thought provoking, plenty make very little sense. All should spark some good dinnertime chatter and allow everyone to get a little peek into the brains of their meal mates. My biggest suggestion is to take your time working through these. Don't rush, dive into each one, maybe no more than 3 per meal, max. It might take folks a bit to get rolling, but given time, brains can really stretch and expand into it.

I have one additional but related game to suggest called, round these parts, The Chocolate Chip Game. This is something we played with our kids often after dinner and it became a beloved tradition. Our now teens still speak so fondly of it, and occasionally wish for its return. Unfortunately, their knowledge in many subjects challenges my own, so it is too difficult a prospect. Maybe we need to turn the table and they can be the game masters. Hmmmm...I DO like chocolate!

The idea is this - everyone sits around the table, a bag of chocolate chips (or whatever other small treat or token works for your family) in the possession of the questioner. Go around the table asking questions. A correct answer earns a chip. A wrong answer does not. It's that simple. The questions are different from those included with these meal musings, however. Included here are questions to spark conversations. The Chip Game, on the other hand, is all about facts and securing the prize. Questions are things like math problems, spelling, history and geography facts. "Please spell furnace" or "what is $4+7-3 \times 2-1$ ". You can decide how strict your chip policy will be. We often would give chances until a question was answered correctly, cuz we're mostly softies, but you can totally go all "NO CHIP FOR YOU". You know your kids best.

Please enjoy these 101 Mealtime Musings, and if you choose to add, The Chocolate Chip Game. Fill your love cups while you fill your bellies, and I hope at least once it makes someone snort their drink out of their nose from laughter.

-- Julia

What career do you want and why?

*

Who is your favorite book character?

*

Who is your favorite movie character?

*

Who is your favorite tv character?

*

If you could live in a book, which one would you choose?

*

If you could live in a movie, which one would you choose?

*

If you could live in a tv show, which one would you choose?

*

Describe your dream home.

*

Describe your dream vacation.

*

Would you rather wear sneakers with no socks or sleep on a mattress with no sheets?

Would you rather bathe in jello
or wear vaseline gloves?

*

What kind of animal is the
person to your left?

*

Name three states and
something you know about each.

*

Name three countries and
something you know about each.

*

Name three presidents and
something you know about each.

*

Name three artists and
something you know about each.

*

Would you rather live in a cave
or on a mountaintop?

*

Would you rather live in a city or
by the ocean?

*

Describe life without gravity.

*

Describe life without money.

Describe your perfect day.

*

Bananas: discuss

*

You are holding hands with a friendly monster. Describe what he/she/they look(s) like, starting with the hand, and including name.

*

What are you most afraid of?

*

Give each person at the table a new name and explain why.

*

Flip flops or sandals?

*

If you had to eat one, would you choose a black jelly bean or a mushy, over cooked carrot?

*

What is your favorite holiday memory?

*

What is your favorite day of the week, and why?

*

Would you rather have to shave a stranger's back or cut their toenails?

What is your favorite food?

*

If you could have a ridiculous superpower, what would it be?

*

Would you rather have a castle made of jello or a jet plane of marshmallows?

*

If you could make your own town what would it look like?

*

Should pennies be eliminated?

*

What is your favorite math operation?

*

What is the opposite of cheese?

*

Make a new definition of the word bashful.

*

Say the first thing you think of.

*

Now tell a 3 sentence story about it.

Gorillas understand jokes - true or false?

*

Do you believe in ghosts?

*

Do you believe in aliens?

*

If you were given a million dollars, how would you help other people with it?

*

If you were to make your own language, how would you say: hello; goodbye; I prefer my meatballs on a stick?

*

If you could wear only one outfit for the rest of your life, what would it be?

*

If your life were an opera, what would it be called?

*

Is it ok that my dog is named Fred?

*

Can you explain the concept of a simple machine?

*

Show your best dance move.

A hot dog and a bench walk into an arcade. What happens?

*

Come up with 5 potential crayola color names for “red”.

*

Do the same for blue and yellow.

*

Give each person at the table a profession.

*

Give each person at the table a mascot.

*

What is your favorite sport to watch?

*

What is your favorite sport to play?

*

Would you rather have a cookie frisbee or a pretzel boomerang?

*

Should mashed potatoes be eaten with gravy or butter?

*

You are making your own Mt Rushmore - who is on it?

Where are the top 3 places in the world you would like to visit?

*

Turn to the person on your right and tell them one good thing.

*

Turn to the person on your left and tell them a joke.

*

Minecraft or Roblox?

*

Spongebob or Pikachu?

*

What defines a liquid?

*

Would you rather be as small as a fly or as big as a tall tree, and why?

*

What is up with cats?

*

Describe your perfect school.

*

No screen entertainment for a week- how do you survive it?

What is your favorite school subject?

*

Do you like to learn by reading or listening or having a conversation?

*

Sledding or swimming?

*

What 3 things would you want with you on a deserted island?

*

How long would you last in a box full of spiders?

*

Name 3 things that start with the letter B and weigh more than 200 lbs.

*

Spell your name backwards.

*

Make 3 words out of the letters of your name.

*

Start with one person saying a letter, then go around the table with each person adding to spell a word.

*

Now do it but try to spell an animal.

What talent do you wish you had?

*

Take a noun and turn it into an adjective. Use it in a sentence.

*

Take a noun and turn it into an adverb. Use it in a sentence.

*

Take a noun and turn it into a verb. Use it in a sentence.

*

It's a windy day. What can you bring outside to give you the best chance at flying?

*

Vanilla or chocolate?

*

What is your favorite book?

*

Describe the book that doesn't exist (as far as you know) but you would like to read?

*

What do you think the first line of it would be?

*

How does the rising of dough work (if you don't know, how do you THINK it works)?

What was one thing that happened in your day that you think would be a good scene in a movie?

*

If your life were to be made into a movie or tv show, who should play you?

*

If you are not a twin, do you think you would like to be one?

*

If you are a twin, what do you think it is like to be a singleton?

*

What is your robot name?

*

Pig as a pet or real dinosaur skeleton as a decoration?

*

Would you be a good president and who would you pick as a running mate?

*

Who is your favorite musical artist?

*

What is your favorite song by them when you are feeling sad?

*

What is your favorite song by them when you are feeling happy and energized?

*

Go play it now and have a dance party!

**THANKS FOR
PLAYING!**