

Career Conversation Cards

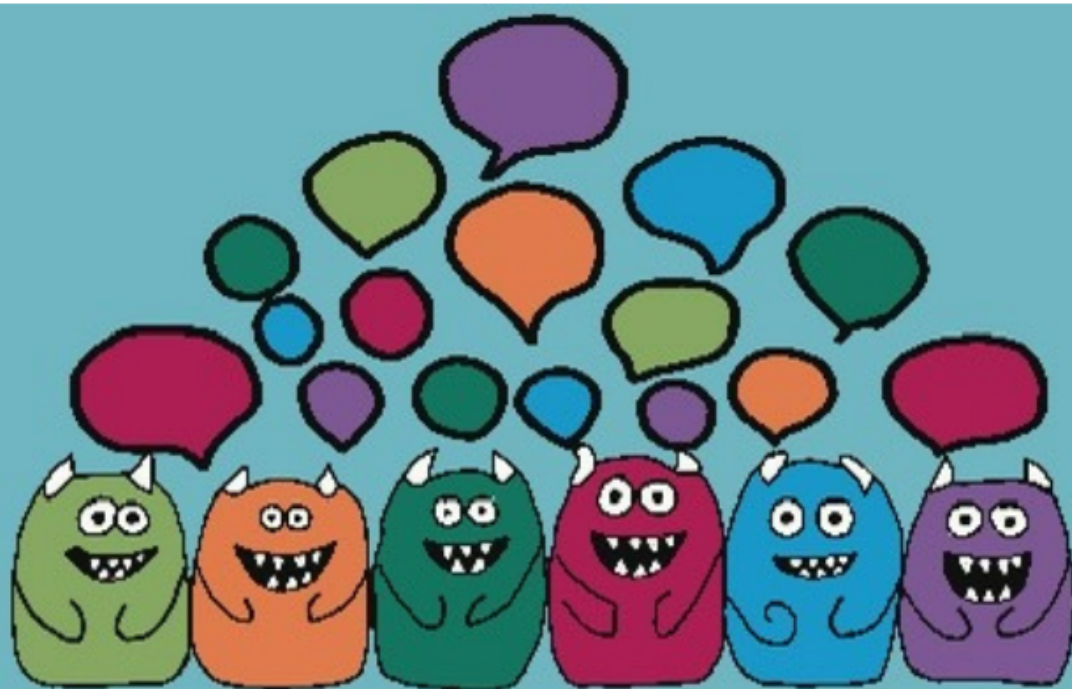


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Career Conversation Cards



How to use these cards

There are no rules—just pick a card and start talking. Each card has a question to spark conversation and an action to try together. Some questions are for parents to ask, some for teens, but most work either way. Use them at the dinner table, in the car, on a walk—wherever you like. The aim? Share ideas, get curious, and explore the future—through family conversations.

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Interests & Aspirations

What lights you up?
What are you drawn to?



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Q: If you could trade places with someone for a day, who would it be? Why?

Action: Learn one thing about the job or life of the person you chose.

Q: Can you see yourself building a career related to your favourite subjects? What kind of jobs are related to these subjects?

Action: Make a list of your favourite school subjects. For each one, find two or three jobs where that subject would be useful.

Q: What kind of work experience are you interested in?

Action: Research a local business in that field and see what they do.

Q: What's something you could happily spend hours learning about or doing without getting bored?

Action: Make time to do that activity this week—even just for 15 minutes.

Q: Which subject did you enjoy most at school—and do you still use it?

Action: Show your teen how that interest shows up in your current life, if it does.

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Strengths & Skills

What are you good at?
How do you like to learn?



Q: How do you like to learn best —watching, trying, reading, asking questions?

Action: Next time you learn something new, use your preferred learning style.

Q: What skills and qualities will you need for the careers you're interested in? Which subjects and courses will help you get those skills?

Action: Choose one career you're interested in and look up the skills and qualifications it needs. Match those to the subjects or courses you're doing now (or could choose later).

Q: Which of your skills do your friends or teachers notice and comment on?

Action: Start a list of compliments or feedback you've received about your strengths. Add your own thoughts: do you agree with what people say?

Q: What do you think you're naturally good at?

Action: Ask three people what strengths they see in you and compare with your own list.

Q: What's one skill you're proud of developing or learning recently?

Action: Write it down and note what helped you get better at it.

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Futures & Pathways

Where could I go?
What's possible?



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Q: Are you more excited by creating something new, fixing something, or helping others?

Action: For one week, jot down which activities or tasks you really enjoy. Notice if there's a pattern—do they involve building, solving, or caring?

Q: Are you thinking about getting a part-time or casual job?

Action: Search a local job site like Seek, Indeed, or Jora. Make a short list of part-time jobs that sound interesting or that suit your schedule.

Q: Can you picture a job where you'd feel proud of what you do? What would it involve?

Action: List three things that would make you feel that way in a job.

Q: What does your dream job look like—indoors, outdoors, working with people, working with ideas, busy, quiet?

Action: Look up a job that matches that setting and learn one fun fact about it.

Q: What will the demand for jobs you're interested in be in the future?

Action: Go to the myfuture website or Victorian Skills Gateway. Search one job you're curious about and read what it says about future demand.

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Values & Motivation

What matters to you?
What keeps you going?



Q: How do you deal with and bounce back from mistakes or setbacks?

Action: Reflect on a recent mistake — what did you learn from it?

Q: How do you like to be supported when you're trying something new?

Action: Let someone know what kind of support works best for you.

Q: What does “success” mean to you — happiness, recognition, helping others, or something else?

Action: Choose your top three values and talk about why they matter.

Q: What kind of impact do you want to make in the world?

Action: Find someone doing work that makes a difference and learn about what they do.

Q: What's one challenge you've overcome in your career — and how did you do it?

Action: Talk about what you would tell your younger self looking back.

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Connections & Exploration

Who can help me?
How do I explore my options?



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Q: After school are you interested in learning a trade, going to uni, or starting work straight away? Who can help you with your plan? Do you have a plan B if your first choice doesn't work out?

Action: Write down your plan: "I want to _____. _____ can help me by _____. If that doesn't work out, I'll _____." Talk it through with someone you trust.

Q: Where can you find reliable information about careers?

Action: Ask a teacher, career advisor, or parent to help you find one good source of career info (like a website or person). Write it down so you can come back to it.

Q: Who do you know that has a job you find interesting or inspiring?

Action: Ask them how they got started—even just one question.

Q: What kinds of experiences or learning opportunities would you like to have during or after school?

Action: Pick one thing you'd love to try—like work experience, volunteering, a short course, or club. Look up how to get involved or ask someone how to get started.

Q: What's something you could do this year to explore careers—an expo, a visit, work experience?

Action: Pick one and add it to your calendar.

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