

GLOBAL
BOYHOOD
INITIATIVE

CONVERSATION STARTERS FOR KIDS

[@BoyhoodInitiative](#)

The Global Boyhood Initiative
is about guiding boys to:



SHARE EMOTIONS IN HEALTHY WAYS



ACCEPT & CONNECT WITH OTHERS



**STAND UP & SPEAK OUT AGAINST
BULLYING & INEQUALITY**



BREAK FREE FROM STEREOTYPES

HOW TO USE THIS DECK

Getting kids to open up to us isn't always easy. We hope these Conversation Starters help.

We encourage you to bring an open mind to using the questions in this deck.

These cards can be used together with other Global Boyhood Campaign tools and content, or they can be used on their own.

Be sure to tell us **@BoyhoodInitiative** or **#BraveryIs** on Instagram how things went! And if you want to play live, search the **@BoyhoodInitiative** filter in Stories or Reels.

Just know: It's totally okay if there are awkward moments, or long stretches of silence.



K E R I N G
F O U N D A T I O N



The Global Boyhood Initiative is a project of Promundo and the Kering Foundation, in partnership with Plan International. We equip adults with tools and resources to raise, teach and coach boys to be their wonderful, complex, healthy emotional selves. Find out more and get involved at [BoyhoodInitiative.org](https://www.boyhoodinitiative.org)

CONVERSATION STARTERS FOR 10 TO 13-YEAR-OLDS



PARENT TIPS

Your 10-13 year old is learning how to develop complex relationships, create multiple solutions, and are experiencing more self-consciousness, moodiness/ distance, and developing their individuality. With these questions, you can start conversations aiming to help your child to express and cope with sadness or depression, peer pressure, and to differentiate between healthy and unhealthy relationship dynamics.

HOW TO KEEP KIDS TALKING

- Put your phone away, so you can give your full attention
- Create space for kids to express their emotions by reaffirming the conversation is confidential
- Take them seriously: how them you believe and value what they are sharing
- Show that you're listening (nod, repeat what you hear, ask clarifying questions)
- Be aware of your actions and facial expressions
- Stay open-minded; don't assume you know how they will respond
- Ask follow-up questions:
 - "Tell me more about that."*
 - "What did you do when that happened?"*
- Allow uncomfortable silences; try counting to 10 before breaking the silence
- Encourage them to make connections to broader social justice issues and to the world around them

SHARE EMOTIONS IN HEALTHY WAYS



Is there someone you talk to
about how you're feeling?

If so, who is that person?

What makes you
comfortable with them?

If not, can you
tell me more about that?

SHARE EMOTIONS IN HEALTHY WAYS



What would you do if
you were mad at a
friend or family member?

How could you
share your feelings and
work towards a solution?

SHARE EMOTIONS IN HEALTHY WAYS



What do you think it means
to be depressed? Anxious?

What could someone do
if they are feeling depressed?
Anxious?

What could you do if
you feel depressed? Anxious?

SHARE EMOTIONS IN HEALTHY WAYS

ACCEPT AND CONNECT WITH OTHERS



Do you feel comfortable
talking to boys? To girls?

Can you tell me more about that?

ACCEPT & CONNECT WITH OTHERS



How do you handle stress?
Challenges?

How do your friends handle stress?
Challenges?

What are the
similarities/differences?
Can you tell me more about that?

ACCEPT & CONNECT WITH OTHERS



Are most of your friends similar
to you or different from you?

What do you appreciate about
your friends' differences?

ACCEPT & CONNECT WITH OTHERS

**STAND UP & SPEAK OUT AGAINST
BULLYING & INEQUALITY**



How does it feel when someone makes fun of you?

What do you do if you see someone being bullied online (social media/video games) or in-person?

What could you do to help them?

**STAND UP & SPEAK OUT AGAINST
BULLYING & INEQUALITY**

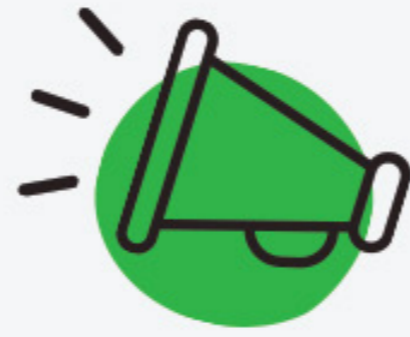


Tell me about a time when you
(or someone you know) were
treated differently because of
your identity (race, gender,
sexual orientation, etc)?

Who is hurt by social injustices?

What can you do about it (at home,
at school, in your community)?

**STAND UP & SPEAK OUT AGAINST
BULLYING & INEQUALITY**



Who do you know that's very
different from you?

What makes them different?

What do you appreciate
about them?

How can you learn more about
other people who are different
from you?

**STAND UP & SPEAK OUT AGAINST
BULLYING & INEQUALITY**

BREAK FREE FROM STEREOTYPES



Do you think there's a certain way people expect you to look or act because of your gender?
Why?

BREAK FREE FROM STEREOTYPES



Are there ways that you see
boys and girls being treated
differently by adults?

How do you feel about that?

BREAK FREE FROM STEREOTYPES



Are there things you would do if
you didn't think people would
judge you or make fun of you?

What would they be and why?

BREAK FREE FROM STEREOTYPES