

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 7 TO 9-YEAR-OLDS



PARENT TIPS

Your 7-9 year old is learning how to identify and regulate multiple, simultaneous emotions, cope and problem-solve, and understand the connection between physical expression and emotions. With these questions, you can start conversations aiming to help your child to understand the cause of their emotions and the emotions of others, learn how to process multiple feelings at once, and better communicate, deepen, and improve their relationships with friends and family.

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



What emotions are you
feeling today?

What colors would they be?

What made you think of
those colors?

SHARE EMOTIONS IN HEALTHY WAYS



What makes you feel
mad? Scared?

How does your body feel
when you're mad? Scared?

How do you calm down?

SHARE EMOTIONS IN HEALTHY WAYS



Do you ever feel nervous
to ask for help?

Who do you go to when you
need help?

What qualities does that
person have?

SHARE EMOTIONS IN HEALTHY WAYS

ACCEPT AND CONNECT WITH OTHERS



How do you make new friends?

ACCEPT & CONNECT WITH OTHERS



What can you do if your friend
or sibling is being mean or
doing something that
makes you feel sad?

ACCEPT & CONNECT WITH OTHERS



Who is your best friend? Why?

What do you like most
about spending time
with your friends?

ACCEPT & CONNECT WITH OTHERS

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



Have you ever seen someone
being mean or bullying
another person?

How did it make you feel?

What can we do to help?

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



Have you ever been
mean to someone?

How do you think that
made them feel?

How did it make you feel?

What might you do
differently next time?

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



What do you think it means
to be brave?

Have you ever had to be brave?

What helps you feel brave?

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

BREAK FREE FROM STEREOTYPES



How does it make you feel
when you see someone crying?

How do you respond – or could you
respond – when someone cries?

Does your response change if
the person crying is a girl? A boy?

Can you tell me more about that?

BREAK FREE FROM STEREOTYPES



Can you tell me about someone
who is different from you?

What makes them different?

What do you appreciate
about them?

BREAK FREE FROM STEREOTYPES



What do you want to be when
you grow up?

What would you say to someone
who feels like they can't be
what they want to be?

BREAK FREE FROM STEREOTYPES