What were you afraid of as a child?

What is your favorite emoji?

Does money make people happy?

What was the last movie you saw in a theater?

What fascinates you?

Which children's book shaped you?

What is under your bed?

200 icebreaker questions

Daniel Seidel

Pulse

Introduction

Icebreaker questions are one of the best ways to get talking with children and teenagers. They are perfect for getting to know new people and finding out something new about the others in the group.

I hope they will help you, too, to deepen your relationships with teens and to start your meetings well. Bye-bye, awkward silence, here come 200 conversation starters!

Best practice

Here are all of my icebreaker questions, collected over 15 years of youth ministry. In many different groups of children and teenagers, and in teams too, they have helped me connect with the participants. My favorite method is to print about 30 to 40 of these questions on small slips of paper and pass them around the circle in a bowl. Everyone draws a slip without looking and answers their question in turn. Great for getting started, and just as good in between, whether you're waiting for the food or need to loosen things up on long meeting days.

These icebreaker questions were compiled by Daniel Seidel.

200 icebreaker questions

1. What is your favorite emoji?
2. What is the most embarrassing item you own?
3. If you could be invisible for an hour, what would you do?
4. Suppose you could pick one quality from someone in this room: which one would you want? From whom?
5. What three qualities would a person have who is the exact opposite of you?
6. Tell us something about yourself that most people in this group probably don't know yet.
7. If a movie could come true for you, which one would you pick? Why?
8. Which place you've been to before would you love to go back to?
9. Which event in the Bible would you have loved to witness? Why?
10. If you could ask God one question and he would answer it right away, what would it be?
11. Looking back, which hard experience in your life do you now see as a gain and a great blessing?
12. Who in your life would you say is or was a spiritual role model for you?
13. If you had a time machine, where would you travel?
14. Do you talk to yourself? About what?
15. Name three people you really owe something to.
16. What tradition would you like to start in the group?
17. Tell us about the book you're reading or have just read.
18. Tell us a story from your elementary school days.
19. Did you have a crush in preschool?
20. Which kitchen appliance would you be?
21. If you could live your life over again, what would you change? (Fielmann)
22. Tell us a joke.
23. What I really find unfair is that ...
24. My confirmation or baptism verse (or a favorite Bible verse) is ...
25. A church service I still remember years later ...
26. My favorite thing to watch on YouTube is ...
27. An invention that absolutely needs to be made ...
28. You can wake me up at 3 a.m. to ...
29. My funeral should ...
30. If I could have decided how many siblings I would have ...
31. If I could have chosen my own first name ...
32. What is your earliest memory?
33. Name every place you have lived!
34. What was your nickname as a kid?
35. What was your worst experience in a bad storm?
36. What was your best experience at camp?
37. Do you have a favorite spot in nature?
38. What is your favorite food?
39. What is your favorite music?
40. What has been the most unusual experience of your life so far?

41 What has been the best experience of your life so far?

42 In which school subject do you get (or did you get) the best grades?

43 When do you usually go to bed?

44 What is typical of you?

45 What do you remember from your preschool days?

46 What do you find unfair?

47 What is under your bed?

48 What are your hobbies?

49 Who was the last person to really surprise you?

50 What do you like to drink most?

51 What do you recommend seeing in your city?

52 What is your relationship with your grandparents like?

53 Are you more of an emotional person (heart) or a rational person (head)?

54 What kind of place do you live in?

55 Would you like to be younger again?

56 Do you like being out in nature?

57 How big is your bed?

58 Which toothpaste do you use?

59 Which celebrity would you like to meet someday?

60 Would you like to go into outer space someday?

61 What is your favorite song right now?

62 What languages do you speak?

63 What is your favorite book?

64 What color is the wall in your (bed)room?

65 Who is your favorite author?

66 What is your favorite movie?

67 What hobbies did you have as a kid?

68 Do you keep a diary?

69 Are you a morning or night person?

70 Do you like to cook?

71 What do you think makes a person rich?

72 When was the first time you came home after midnight?

73 What is your favorite day of the week?

74 Where do you most like to go on vacation?

75 Which food do you not like at all?

76 What was the last movie you saw in a theater?

77 What is your favorite sport?

78 What do you do when you are bored?

79 What would you do with a million euros?

80 What would you name your first child?

81 What is the craziest thing you have ever done?

82 Which of your friends lives the farthest away?

83 Have you ever been tempted to steal something?

84 What is the most important thing in life to you?

85 What did you do with your allowance as a kid?

86 Do you worry about the future? About what exactly?

87 What would you do if you were only 10 cm (4 inches) tall for a day?

88 Would you walk alone through an unfamiliar forest at night?

89 What is important to you in your friends?

90 What is the best thing about getting older?

91 Does it matter to you what other people think of you?

92 What must your fridge never run out of?

93 Do you cross the street on a red light?

94 Do you give money to people who beg on the street?

95 Who would you take with you to a deserted island?

96 Do you read a newspaper or a magazine?

97 Which children's book shaped you?

98 What would a movie about you be called?

99 Who would you like to give a medal to, and for what?

100 What did your room look like as a child?

101 What have you gotten stronger or better at lately?

102 Which resolution did you follow through on this year?

103 What was the happiest day of your life?

104 If everything in life were easy, what would you do?

105 Tell us about a nice moment from last week.

106 What is the best way for you to relax?

107 Do you remember your first day of school?

108 What fascinates you?

109 What would you not part with for all the money in the world?

110 Does your mood depend on the weather?

111 Who is a role model for you?

112 Which event has shaped your life?

113 Do you have a life motto? If not, what could be one for you?

114 Which stories did you especially like as a child?

115 Have you ever had to go to the hospital?

116 What story from your life do you like to tell most?

117 Do you believe in miracles?

118 How much would you donate if you won a million in the lottery?

119 Have you ever skipped school to do something else?

120 Do you jump off the five-meter (16-foot) diving tower at the pool?

121 What name would you have been given if you had been born a boy/girl instead?

122 What did you need to fall asleep as a child?

123 Which wish would you like to fulfill as soon as possible?

124 What did you want to be when you grew up?

125 Which electronic device could you do without?

126 What is (or was) your favorite school subject?

127 Who is the coolest person you know?

128 What were you afraid of as a child?

129 Do you believe in love at first sight?

130 What would you like to do when you are old?

131 What was your family's first car, or an old car you remember?

132 What would you wish for if you had three wishes?

133 What is the last thing you do before falling asleep?

134 What did you buy with your first allowance or paycheck?

135 Have you ever been in a car accident?

136 What is your current screen wallpaper?

137 What do you especially like about yourself?

138 What question would you like to ask the opposite sex?

139 Which planet would you like to visit for a day?

140 How would you describe yourself in three adjectives?

141 Which car would you like to have?

142 Which historical event would you have liked to be there for?

143 Who would you like to keep quiet for a year?

144 How much money would someone have to pay you to give up your favorite food forever?

145 Who would you like to get to know?

146 Which invention impresses you the most?

147 If you owned your own TV channel, what would it broadcast?

148 How would you like to be living in 10 years?

149 What would you like to have achieved by the time you are 30 (for parents and mentors: 60)?

150 What ruins your day the fastest?

151 What would you be doing right now if you weren't here?

152 Which event in the Bible would you have loved to witness?

153 What would you sacrifice your life for?

154 What was the best gift you have ever received?

155 What is the most beautiful place you have ever been?

156 Which countries have you visited?

157 Which of your five senses could you most easily do without?

158 What should your gravestone say someday?

159 Would you like to take a look into the future?

160 Who told you about God?

161 Where is home for you?

162 Do you tell other people about your faith?

163 Would you like to be a superhero for a day? Which one?

164 Whose thoughts would you like to be able to read?

165 If you could subscribe to one magazine on a deserted island, which would it be?

166 If you could own any building in the world, which would it be?

167 How would you furnish your place if you had unlimited money?

168 Which crime would you want to commit if you knew you would not be prosecuted?

169 What would you do first if you won a million?

170 What are your wishes for the coming year?

171 What talent would you like to have?

172 What dreams do you have?

173 Which recent dream do you remember?

174 Who do you ask when you need personal advice?

175 On which talk show would you like to be a guest?

176 How do you picture heaven?

177 Do you like to prank people? What was the funniest prank you ever pulled or experienced?

178 Which month of the year would you like to get rid of for good?

179 What would you do if you were locked in a department store overnight?

180 Do you have a favorite TV series?

181 If you could replace the current head of state of any country, which one would it be?

182 What does a perfect day start with for you?

183 If you could rule the world for a day, what would you change?

184 What is the first thing you do after getting up?

185 How was your last Christmas?

186 When do your parents annoy you the most?

187 What are you really grateful for right now?

188 Imagine your house is on fire. All the people and animals are safe. You can run back in one last time to save something. What would it be?

189 Is there a fashion trend you once followed that you find a bit embarrassing today?

190 Tell us a useless fact that you know.

191 What could you talk about for 15 minutes straight without any preparation?

192 What was the most embarrassing text message you ever sent to the wrong person?

193 What annoys you about social media?

194 Which app do you use the most?

195 What do you think you are really good at?

196 How often do you hit the snooze button in the morning?

197 What do you think of small talk?

198 Does money make people happy?

199 If you could only wear one color for the rest of your life, which would it be?

200 What would you change about your school if you were in charge of it?

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