



Waiting Time Can Be Talking Time

Conversation Starters for While You Wait

Waiting can create space for connection.

A simple question, observation, or story can turn an ordinary wait into a conversation. You don't need a lesson plan or a bag of activities.

Talking is one option - not another requirement for filling every moment.

Follow the child's interest. A short exchange can be enough.

What might you talk about while you wait?

NOTICE TOGETHER

Try: "What do you notice from where we are?" "What sounds can you hear?" "Can you find something moving?"

REMEMBER

Try: "What was your favorite part of today?" "Do you remember when we...?" "Tell me something funny that happened."

IMAGINE

Try: "If this room could talk, what would it say?" "What do you think is behind that door?" "What new animal would you invent?"

CONNECT

Try: "What makes you laugh?" "What are you wondering about today?" "What is something you wish grown-ups knew?"

We don't have to keep children entertained every second.

Sometimes waiting time can become talking time. Sometimes it can be play time or noticing time. And sometimes, children can simply wait. The goal is connection, not constant entertainment.

Let the conversation be enough.

Questions can open the door, but children do not need to answer every prompt. Notice what interests them and let the conversation go where it goes.