Thoughtful Learner



100 Guiding Questions for Summer

If you teach in an inquiry- or project-based classroom, you probably use guiding questions to help your students really dig into a topic. Well, now that summer is upon us, it's time to consider what questions will guide your summer and help you really dig in.

Here's a list of 100 guiding questions that can help you get the most out of this season. Pick a question from the list, or let the ideas here inspire you to fashion your own. Then get busy with your summer of inquiry!

- 1. What self-improvement should I do this summer?
- 2. What positive health habit can I adopt?
- 3. What is my most negative health habit, and how can I end it?
- 4. What is my biggest physical complaint, and how can I get rid of it?
- 5. How can I get outside more?
- 6. What activity can I do with friends?
- 7. What preventive care should I do this summer?
- 8. How can I improve my attitude and outlook?
- 9. How can I become happier?
- 10. What part of my personality would I most like to change, and how?
- 11. How can I better manage stress and anxiety?
- 12. What self-talk do I do, and how can I make it more positive?
- 13. How can I improve my energy and strength?
- 14. What new hairstyle should I try?
- 15. What shift in fashion would make me feel better about myself?
- 16. What do I want out of this summer, and how can I get it?
- 17. What do I want out of the next year of life, and how can I go for it?
- 18. What do I want my life to look like in 5 years? 10 years? 20 years?
- 19. How can I build my confidence and self-esteem?
- 20. How can I improve my social-emotional well-being?
- 21. What professional development should I do this summer?
- 22. How can I create or expand my personal learning network (PLN)?
- 23. What book about teaching should I read this summer?
- 24. What style of teaching would I like to explore next year?
- 25. What webinars and conferences could I attend?
- 26. What social networking communities could I use to keep up on teaching trends?
- 27. What one big change would I like to make in my classroom, and how?
- 28. Whom could I team-teach with next year, and how?

- 29. How can I collaborate more closely with other teachers?
- 30. What one factor could I change to better connect with students?
- 31. Which students struggle in my class, and what can I do to help them?
- 32. What teaching mentors can I find?
- 33. What new technology should I learn to be a better teacher?
- 34. What students need my support this summer, and how can I give it?
- 35. What could I do to help stop the summer slide in students?
- 36. What new lesson plans should I write up this summer?
- 37. How can I avoid burnout and recharge my batteries this summer?
- 38. How can my family get the most out of this summer?
- 39. How can I connect more with family members?
- 40. How can I build a family out of my friendships?
- 41. How can I create great family memories?
- 42. What can I do with my family?
- 43. How can I deepen my relationship with someone close to me?
- 44. What relationships need repair, and how can I fix them?
- 45. What get-togethers should I plan or attend?
- 46. What family milestones should we celebrate this summer?
- 47. How can I show my family that I love them?
- 48. Why have I drifted from others, and how can we regain the closeness?
- 49. How can we build greater trust and harmony?
- 50. What new family traditions can we establish?
- 51. What project can we work on together to bond more?
- 52. How can we improve communication in our family?
- 53. Which family member is struggling, and how can the rest of us help?
- 54. What is our genealogy?
- 55. What improvements can I make to my living space this summer?
- 56. What room do I want to make over, and how?
- 57. What do I want to plant and tend?
- 58. What home repair or maintenance needs to be done?
- 59. How can I make my living space safer?
- 60. How can I make my living space more secure?
- 61. How can I find an attractive, durable, inexpensive ______
- 62. How could I rearrange this room to be more comfortable?
- 63. What poorly used space could be reworked into living space?
- 64. How could I make home projects into family projects?
- 65. What changes in decor would transform this space?
- 66. How can this space serve multiple functions?
- 67. What foods would I like to learn to cook this summer?
- 68. How could I help the kids learn to cook?
- 69. What's the least comfortable thing about my home, and how do I fix it?
- 70. How can I improve my community this summer?
- 71. What neighbors have I not met, and how can I do so?
- 72. What good deeds can I do to help my neighbors?
- 73. How many batches of cookies should I bake, and who gets them?
- 74. Which friend needs help, and how can I provide it?
- 75. What activities should I get involved with?
- 76. How can I make my community a better place?
- 77. What organizations should I volunteer for?
- 78. What's a big need in my community, and how can I help fill it?
- 79. What could I do to make the school a better place next year?
- 80. How can I build new relationships in the community?

- 81. What community events should I attend?
- 82. What local causes should I support, and how?
- 83. What changes in my life will positively impact the environment?
- 84. What travel and leisure activities should I be involved in this summer?
- 85. Where should I go this summer, and what should I see?
- 86. What wonderful destinations lie in my own backyard?
- 87. What special events should I attend this summer?
- 88. What new experience do I want to have this summer?
- 89. Whom should I go to visit, and whom should I invite over?
- 90. What historical site could teach me the most this summer?
- 91. How can I most affordably have the adventure of a lifetime?
- 92. What culture would I like to experience and explore?
- 93. Where can I hike, jog, boat, or bike this summer?
- 94. What big challenge would I enjoy accomplishing?
- 95. What would be the most relaxing trip?
- 96. What plays would I like to go see?
- 97. What concerts could I attend?
- 98. What museums would I like to tour?
- 99. If I could go anywhere, where would it be and why?
- 100. What can I do this summer that I will remember gladly forever?