

Activity Idea

Funny Debates

Go Ahead. Argue with Your Friends and Family.

Recommended for Ages 12 – 18

About

Debate involves mastering skills such as: the confidence to speak in public and make sense; the construction of a logical argument; the ability to read an audience's reactions; and the willingness to hear others' arguments, and to respond to them. Practice your public speaking skills by making it fun. Grab someone else to argue against or just argue against yourself!

You Will Need:

- Paper
- Something to write with
- Something to put slips of paper in like a bowl or hat
- Debate topics. See below instructions or make up your own
- Optional: a computer with webcam, speakers, and mic

Debate Rules:

1. Do not interrupt others while they are speaking.
2. Keep your answers short and concise.
3. Listen carefully to your opponent and ask questions once they have finished.
4. No idea is stupid, so share anything you've got.
5. Do not raise your voice.
6. Always speak calmly and politely to your opponent.

How to Play:

1. Write as many debate topics down on individual pieces of paper as you like.
2. Fold up slips of paper and place in a bowl, hat, bag, etc.
3. Decide who will choose first. You can decide amongst yourselves or perhaps let the person who debated or argued a point last go first.

4. Choose one slip of paper, unfold it and read the topic. Share with or show the others what the topic is. Choose a side and begin your debate.
5. Now it's time for the other person argue their points. You can go back and forth between each other in the debate if you follow the above debate rules.
6. Once everyone has made their points, allow spectators, if there are any, to decide who wins. Since these are supposed to be funny debates, perhaps the argument that makes everyone laugh the hardest wins.

Debate Topics:

- What makes a better pet: cats or dogs?
- What came first: the chicken or the egg?
- Summer is better than winter.
- People under age 18 should be allowed to vote.
- Smart phones make us stupid.
- Choose any color and argue why it's the best over the others.
- Aliens may be living amongst us.
- Books are better than movies.
- Choose a Hogwarts house and argue why it's better, or worse, than the others (Gryffindor, Slytherin, Hufflepuff, Ravenclaw).
- Slices of pizza in a square are better than in triangles.
- Going out or staying at home?
- Is it better to be the hero or the sidekick?
- Instagram famous or TikTok famous?
- Homework should be abolished.
- Why nursery rhymes are quite twisted.
- Does playing video games increase IQ?
- Which is better: dreaming at night or daydreaming?
- Which is the real football: America and Canada football or the football played all over the world?