



PARENTS



TEACHERS



KIDS



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**Conversations**  
About Alcohol at Different Ages

Decision Making Grid

How do conversations about alcohol begin? We know that they can begin with a question or a comment in the presence of trusted adults at any time. The element of surprise certainly helps us to consider whether talking with an older elementary aged child who is deeply curious about what's in the cup, teens beginning to feel peer pressure, a teen who works a few afternoons a week, or a college student who is having trouble studying because of partying friends.

To provide some guidance of what to say to different ages based on the practical scenarios that may be affecting them at various stages in their lives, we've developed a handy list of talking points for all ages and stages.

After all, talking about alcohol is easier than you think, especially when having the necessary knowledge about the health risks associated with underage drinking to share with lots of all ages or realize that parents are the leading influence.

**How to use the grid**

AS A PARENT	AS A TEACHER	AS A COACH	AS A SCHOOL COUNSELOR
Sometimes questions from children can catch us off guard—especially if the question relates to a topic that might seem difficult to talk about. It is important to listen to the questions children ask and answer just the question itself or expand it to go into more detail. If children are asking these questions, parents may want to use these prompts as conversation starters to begin the conversation. Parents can also use their own responsible behaviors as conversation starters. Don't be afraid to bring up something that's going on at that moment.	The grid may help you get started with a conversation with individual students. It can also be used for role-playing during a related health lesson or after reading a book or story that may mention underage drinking or alcohol. You can use the resources in your school and community to gather this help.	Coaches may overhear conversations between players in the locker room or on the side of the field about what happens outside of the school or team setting. Raise the discussion during a team meeting at the beginning of the session to help students understand the big picture when it comes to training or team rules and their bodies.	In addition to being able to talk as a counselor with students, these conversations lend themselves to role-playing during whole class guidance or small group guidance lessons. One student could play the role of student while another plays the role of parent to encourage students to think about underage drinking and the impact of alcohol.

[ANSWER KEYS](#)

**DOWNLOAD** (<http://asklistenlearn.org/wp-content/uploads/conversations-about-alcohol-at-different-ages.pdf>)

## Conversations About Alcohol at Different Ages

### How To Order

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I am over 13 years of age

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