Ask your grandparent *about when they were small.*

24 short questions for children to ask a grandparent, with room on every card to draw or write what they heard.

How to play

1. **Cut out the cards and put them in a pile, face down.**
2. **Pick one and read it out loud.**
   A grown-up can help with the reading.
3. **Listen to the whole answer.**
   Then ask one more thing: “What happened next?”
4. **Draw or write what you heard in the box on the card.**
5. **Write the date and your grandparent’s name on the back.**
   Keep the cards together in an envelope, and add to them on the next visit.

For the grown-up helping

Children around five to nine do best with one question at a time and something to hold or look at.

- **Bring a photo.**
  Point at it and ask who is in it and what was happening.
- **Draw together.**
  Ask them to describe a room from their childhood while the child draws it, then show them the drawing.
- **Use “when you were my age.”**
  It turns any card into a fair comparison a child understands.
- **Keep it short.**
  Three cards over a snack is a great visit.
- **Record only with permission, and say who will hear it.**
  The recording consent checklist helps: henedo.com/printables/recording-consent-checklist.pdf

Where these questions come from

They come from Henedo’s Life Story bank of 1,000+ prompts and from its Ask library, the questions families use to keep a life’s stories in the teller’s own words.

Made by Henedo, a private family memory and digital legacy service. More guides at henedo.com/blog/.

1

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What did you play at recess?

Draw or write what you heard

2

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What did Sunday mornings smell like in the kitchen when you were small?

Draw or write what you heard

3

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Did you have a favourite toy or comfort object?

Draw or write what you heard

4

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Describe your first day of school. Who walked you there?

Draw or write what you heard

5

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What did you see out of your bedroom window growing up?

Draw or write what you heard

6

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Did you have a pet? Tell me about them.

Draw or write what you heard

7

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Tell me about your first bicycle.

Draw or write what you heard

8

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What did you collect? Stamps, marbles, stones, stickers.

Draw or write what you heard

9

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What do you always carry in your pockets or your bag?

Draw or write what you heard

10

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What treat or dessert was special when you were small?

Draw or write what you heard

11

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What did you do on rainy days?

Draw or write what you heard

12

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Do you remember a snowy day from childhood?

Draw or write what you heard

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What is the most trouble you ever got into as a child? Tell it the way it actually happened.

Draw or write what you heard

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What show did you race home to watch?

Draw or write what you heard

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Did anyone read to you? What stories?

Draw or write what you heard

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Where did you swim as a child?

Draw or write what you heard

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What did someone make for you when you were sick in bed?

Draw or write what you heard

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What's the first thing you bought with your own money?

Draw or write what you heard

19

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Did you have a favourite tree, hill, or place outside?

Draw or write what you heard

20

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What did you eat secretly that you weren't supposed to?

Draw or write what you heard

21

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What sound meant everyone was home?

Draw or write what you heard

22

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Tell me about a birthday party that stays with you.

Draw or write what you heard

23

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Describe the best day of your childhood.

Draw or write what you heard

24

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What story can you not tell without laughing?

Draw or write what you heard