

Prompting Cards for Kids

Twelve prompts worth learning, by age. Print, cut along the lines, keep them near the screen.

Ages 6-8 Explain it like I'm seven "Explain [topic] to me like I'm seven years old, using something from a playground."	Ages 6-8 Ask me questions "Ask me three questions about [topic] and tell me if I got them right."
Ages 6-8 Is that true? "Is that really true? How do you know? What if you're wrong?"	Ages 6-8 Make it a story "Turn what I just learned about [topic] into a very short story with a dog in it."
Ages 9-11 Second explanation "I didn't understand that. Explain it a completely different way, without using the word [X]."	Ages 9-11 Quiz me "Quiz me on [topic] with five questions, one at a time. Don't tell me the answers until I try."
Ages 9-11 Find my mistake "Here's my work. Don't fix it — tell me which part is wrong and why."	Ages 9-11 Argue back "I think [my idea]. Give me the strongest reason someone would disagree."
Ages 12-14 Show your sources "Where did that come from? Give me a real source I can check myself."	Ages 12-14 Critique, don't write "Read my draft. Tell me what's unclear and what's unsupported. Do not rewrite it."
Ages 12-14 Change the role "You're a skeptical teacher grading this. What would you take marks off for?"	Ages 12-14 Push for depth "That was surface level. Go three layers deeper and assume I already know the basics."

The habit underneath all twelve: a good prompt asks the AI to **react to your thinking**, not to replace it. Kids who learn that difference stay on the right side of every homework policy they'll meet.