

✧ A FREE FAMILY MINI-ADVENTURE ✧

THE

Wonderful

What If?

Challenge

Before You Give the Answer, Ask “What If?”

Seven days. Seven small moments.

A whole lot of possibility.



A playful, practical guide to making more room for children
to wonder, try, and discover what they are capable of.

MADE FOR REAL LIFE ✧ NO SPECIAL SUPPLIES REQUIRED

What happens when we **don't rush** to the answer?

Not every moment calls for stepping back. Children need our help, encouragement, and care. But every so often, a question can open a door that an answer would have closed.

✦ YOUR VERY SIMPLE MISSION ✦

Once a day, notice a moment when you might normally jump in with the answer or solution.

Try a question instead.



Give them a little space.



See what happens.

Three things to remember

1

Keep it ordinary.

A snack-time question counts.

2

Follow their lead.

You do not need to manufacture a project.

3

Stay alongside them.

Support is welcome; taking over is discouraged.

✦ *No perfect parenting. Just a little more wonder.* ✦

DAY

1

Ask Before Answering

When a question lands on your doorstep, try handing it back, warmly, before you answer it yourself.

try asking

“What do you think?”

IN REAL LIFE

They ask why the moon follows the car.
Instead of explaining, ask what they think is happening.

A MOMENT TO NOTICE

What did they say that you would not have thought of?

.....

.....

DAY

2

Make Room for Ideas

Let the first idea be theirs, even if yours looks tidier or faster.

try asking

“What if we tried something different?”

IN REAL LIFE

The blanket fort keeps falling down.
Invite a new plan before suggesting your own.

A MOMENT TO NOTICE

Where did the thinking go that perhaps you didn't anticipate before asking the question?

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DAY

3

Let Them Try

Stand close, say nothing, and let the first attempt belong to them.

try asking

“How might you start?”

IN REAL LIFE

They want to make a card, build a ramp, or organize their backpack. Let them choose the first move.

A MOMENT TO NOTICE

What was the hardest part of staying quiet?

DAY

4

Welcome the Unexpected

When something does not work, treat it as information rather than a dead end.

try asking

“What could we try next?”

IN REAL LIFE

The paper airplane dives straight down. Get curious about what to change.

A MOMENT TO NOTICE

If you had a different idea, how could you share it without taking the thinking over?

DAY

5

Notice the Discovery

Ask the question that invites them to notice their own thinking out loud.

try asking

“How did you figure that out?”

IN REAL LIFE

After a tricky puzzle, ask them to walk you through how they solved it.

A MOMENT TO NOTICE

What did their explanation show you about how they think?

DAY

6

Celebrate the Process

Make a small fuss about the trying, not just the finished thing.

try asking

“What part took the most courage to try?”

IN REAL LIFE

At bedtime, revisit a moment when they kept going or tried a new approach.

A MOMENT TO NOTICE

What will you carry into next week?



Notice the Development

Ask a question to help them notice how they have grown along the way.

*try
asking*

“What can you do now that you couldn’t do before?”

TRY IT IN REAL LIFE

Look back at an early attempt, like a first drawing or the first version of a fort, and ask how today’s is different.

FOR YOU

What growth did they see in themselves that you might have missed?

.....

.....

Look for the **trying**, not just the result.



A new idea.



A brave first step.



A second attempt.



Tonight, ask each other:

What is one thing you tried this week that you are proud of, even if it did not work?

What did you **discover**?

There are no right answers here, just notes worth keeping. Write a sentence, sketch a picture, or talk about these together.

What did you notice about the children?

What did you notice about yourself?

One moment I want to remember:

write it, sketch it, or both

The most wonderful thing is not always what children create.
It is **who they become in the process.**