



Family Talk

Manufacturer: Around the Table

Recommended Age: 4+

Retail Price: \$9.99

Buy it here: www.swww.com, www.educationalwarehouse.com

On the web: www.aroundthetablegames.com

SUMMARY

Around the Table Family Talk is a portable conversation game for people of all ages. Each deck of 100 cards is attached to a carabineer clip so the game can be clipped to a backpack, purse or picnic basket. To play, pick a card, ask a question and get a glimpse into the hearts and minds of family members.

Family Talk has been developed to engage families in colorful conversations with diverse topics to reveal surprising answers even from hard-to-talk teens. The game's portability allows families to play in the car, at the dinner table, on vacation or at a party.

INDIVIDUAL CATEGORY RATINGS

EASE OF USE ★★☆☆☆

Pull them out and ask a question - doesn't get too much easier. Just a couple issues our review team had - they would have liked to have seen different questions for parents versus children - or at least a variation of the same questions. Additionally, while the game is recommended for kids four and up, our four to six year olds had difficulty understanding some of the questions.

DURABILITY ★★☆☆☆

Our reviewers loved the carabineer clip - easy to clip on to anything; however, when some of the younger kids were trying to ask questions we ended up with a ripped card - and had a tough time moving the deck around the clip. For sure, the deck and clip are small and light enough to travel with you where ever you may be headed.

VISUAL APPEAL ★★☆☆☆

The cards are a pleasant yellow with "speech bubbles" - and the carabineer clip is a metallic blue. Reviewers agreed the only thing that would make it more appealing in the looks category would be some additional colors that may make Family Talk overall more inviting.

FUNCTIONALITY ★★☆☆☆

Love the idea! As noted in ease of use, we did have a little issue with the age range. When asking questions such as "If you had to create a mission statement for your family, what would it be?", more time was spent discussing what a mission statement is rather than how it related to individual families - while learning what a mission statement is really isn't the worst thing, our reviewers agreed the question was lost on their children.

COST EFFICIENCY ★★★★★

At just under \$10 - the cost is exactly what our reviewers guessed it would be - so, no issues here!

ORIGINALITY ★★★★★

There are quite a few games out there that are intended to be ice breakers or conversation starters; however, our reviewers felt that no game compared when it came to pointed questions that were so deep and family-oriented. Families, if willing to sit together and discuss, will find Around the Table Family Talk to be perfect family conversation starters.

OVERALL RATING ★★★★★

Are you always getting the same responses? Mom: "How was your day?" Kid: "Fine" Mom: "What did you do?" Kid: "Nothing." We've all heard it. With Around the Table Family Talk you may just be able to discuss just a little bit more with your tight-lipped kids and teenagers. There's no guarantee that you'll get them talking, but here's a new avenue to try to help open the trap!