

Dad Unleashed: The Family Charades Game

Game Overview:

This game is designed for kids of all ages to get to know their parents better in a fun and interactive way. I originally created this game for dads to bond with their kids in a different way. Typically, what I see in my office are dads who are involved with the family but are sometimes seen as the disciplinarian, breadwinner, fun guy, boss, or sadly, the kids don't know a lot about them or their childhood.

The game allows children to see their parents in a new light and have fun in the process. It can also be adapted for moms, with the dad taking on the role of gathering and coordinating the game.

The game works best when a designated adult (like Mom/Adult/Older Teen) takes the lead in gathering props and organizing the game, while the acting parent does not see the questions beforehand, making it more spontaneous and entertaining.

Game Rules:

Acting:

Kids take turns in reading a card. Dad acts out his answer. Kids guess is answer.

For "Have you ever" questions, Dad uses the props to act out the specific action described in the question (e.g., farting loudly in public, tripping, or laughing when no one else was). The boys will then guess what Dad is doing.

Dad can use any of the props or items from around the house to help him act out the charades.

Guessing:

The kids take turns guessing what their dad is acting out.

The first kid to guess correctly earns a point for that round.

Mom/Adult/Older Teens Role: Mom can observe the game but it's primarily for the boys and kids. She can choose to join in the reward activity or not, depending on her preference.

End of the Game

Winning: The kid with the most points at the end of the session gets to choose a fun activity. I would schedule it for the weekend.

No Complaints: The other kids must agree to the activity, without complaints, that the winning kid chooses.

Multiple Sessions: The game can be divided into different sessions, with each session ending in a small reward or just the enjoyment of playing together.

Game Setup:

Preparation: Write each question (listed below) on a separate card or slip of paper.

Choose a Reader: Select a person who will read the questions aloud. This can be Mom, another designated adult, an older teen, or one of the kids.

Gather Props: The designated adult or older teen gathers fun props or accessories for the acting parent to use during the game. These can include:

Poop pillow

Burping device

Superhero picture/Characters

Book

Toys

Sponge or cleaning item

Hand mirror

Piece of food

Wig or something to look like hair

Girly something - jewelry or shoes - clothes

Strange food combination

Crazy looking outfit (not matching)

Mismatched socks

Sports item

Other fun things around the house

Questions to Cut Out:

Print out the following pages and cut out into strips before starting the game.

Childhood Adventures

What was your favorite thing to do as a kid?

What toy did you love the most?

What games did you play outside with your friends?

Did you have a secret hideout? Where was it?

What was your happiest childhood memory?

What animals did you have growing up?

Who was your best friend?

What did you do with your dad?

Who was your favorite person?

Who was your idol?

What sport did you like the best?

What did you get in trouble for?

What feeling or emotion did you feel the most?

Family Fun

What was a funny memory with your mom?

What was a fun memory with your dad?

What did your family do for fun together?

Did you have any family traditions?

What made your mom laugh the most?

What did you get in trouble for as a kid?

How did your parents discipline you?

How did you treat your parents?

Where did you go for vacation?

What did you play with your siblings?

What did you and your siblings do the most?

How did you throw a fit as a kid?

School Days

What was your favorite subject in school?

What did your first crush look like and act?

How did you try to get girls attention?

Did you have a favorite teacher? Why?

Who was your best friend in school?

What was your hardest subject?

What subject did you not like?

Did you ever get in trouble at school? What for?

Feelings & Emotions

What made you really happy as a kid?

What was something that made you sad?

What did you do when you got mad?

What were you most afraid of as a kid?

What was your proudest moment?

Favorites & Fun

What was your favorite TV show?

What was your favorite movie?

Did you have a favorite sport or team?

What was your favorite food or dinner?

What was your favorite thing to wear?

Growing Up

What did you want to be when you grew up?

How did your dad discipline you?

How did your mom discipline you?

What expectations did your parents have for you?

Did you have any chores? What were they?

Family Reflections

What upsets you that we do?

What do we do that makes you mad and why?

What do we do that makes you proud?

What do you love about each of us individually?

What do you love about mom?

What do you like about your job?

What do you not like about your job?

What do you like about our family?

What do you like to do with our family?

Looking Up to Others

Who did you look up to as a kid?

Why did you admire that person?

Who was your role model growing up?

Did you have a favorite superhero or character?

If you could have any superpower, what would it be?

Funny & Silly Questions – Have you ever?

Dad acts out these questions:

Have you ever worn mismatched socks on purpose?

Have you ever eaten something off the floor because it was too good to waste?

Have you ever made a weird face in the mirror just to make yourself laugh?

What's the silliest thing you've ever done in front of a crowd?

Have you ever danced in your underwear when no one was watching?

What's the funniest prank you've ever pulled on someone?

Have you ever gotten the hiccups at the worst possible time?

What's the strangest food combination you've ever tried?

Have you ever accidentally called someone by the wrong name in an embarrassing situation?

What's the weirdest thing you've ever found in your pockets?

Have you ever sung the wrong lyrics to a song out loud and got caught?

What's the most ridiculous outfit you've ever worn in public?

Have you ever tried to talk with your mouth full and ended up spitting out your food?

What's the most awkward thing you've ever said to a stranger?

Have you ever tried to impress someone and completely failed?

What is an embarrassing gesture or behavior to you?

Make the face you want to make when people annoy you in public?

Walk around the room so silly it makes us laugh.

Silly & Embarrassing Moments

Have you ever farted loudly in public? (Dad acts out the action with a burping device or sound effect)

Have you ever burped out loud in public? (Dad acts out the action with a burping device or sound effect)

Have you ever tripped or fallen down in public? (Dad acts out the action)

Have you ever laughed when nobody else was laughing and embarrassed yourself?

Have you ever thought you were going to poop your pants? Show us how that felt.

Show us how you feel when you need to toot and you can't.