



Identifying Common Interests

We can all find something we have in common with someone else, even someone who seems totally different from us. Maybe we both like chocolate chip cookie dough ice cream. Perhaps we both grew up in a single-parent family. However big or small our similarities, they are there—you just need to look for them.

Below are some ideas to help you find similarities.

Don't worry if you don't come up with much that overlaps at first. Eventually the two of you will have spent enough time together that you'll find more things you have in common, plus you'll have built some shared experiences you'll have in common as well. When you do find common interests, stop to chat more about why you like and dislike different things.

What Do We Have in Common?

	MENTOR'S ANSWERS	MENTEE'S ANSWERS
FAMILY		
Where I was born		
How many siblings I have		
Who raises/raised me		
Health concerns I have or have had		
Places I have lived		

CONTINUES →

IDENTIFYING COMMON INTERESTS

	MENTOR'S ANSWERS	MENTEE'S ANSWERS
SCHOOL		
What kind of school I attend(ed)		
My favorite subjects		
My least favorite subjects		
Number of kids that are/were in my class		
Favorite teacher or adult at school		
INTERESTS		
Hobbies		
Places I like to go		
Places I've visited for vacation, work, family visits		

CONTINUES →

IDENTIFYING COMMON INTERESTS

	MENTOR'S ANSWERS	MENTEE'S ANSWERS
Places I want to visit someday		
Games I like to play		
Things I'm good at doing		
Things I want to get better at doing		
Favorite animals		
Favorite types of music		
Favorite types of books		
Favorite movies or television shows		
Favorite foods		
Least favorite foods		

CONTINUES →

IDENTIFYING COMMON INTERESTS

	MENTOR'S ANSWERS	MENTEE'S ANSWERS
VALUES		
I believe strongly in ...		
I want to change the world so that ...		
I think money can be good because ...		
I think money can be bad because ...		
FUTURE		
What kind of career do I want someday?		
What kind of family do I hope to have?		
What do I want people to say about me at my 100th birthday party?		