

20 Ways to Know Your Teen



1. Your teen's friends will change, but you should know their best friend.
2. You, of course, are not always your teenager's hero. Who else they idolize?
3. Find out what radio station your teen likes to listen to.
4. Find out if your teen wants to play sports and then take the time to see their games.
5. You are one of their most important teachers – but the ones at school are important too, so take the time to meet them.
6. They may be home by curfew, but you should still know where they are hanging out.
7. Find out what items are important to your teen. What is their most prized possession?
8. Your teen could be a fine doctor or lawyer, but don't limit them. Find out what they want to be.
9. What is their greatest fear? Can you help them overcome it?
10. Give your kids a say in some family decisions – Where do they want to go on vacation?
11. Most teens have nicknames from their friends. Does your teen want you to use that name?
12. Television is an influential part of teenage culture. What is your teen's favorite show?
13. Even though they're young, your teen probably is proudest of one thing in their past. What do they think is their greatest accomplishment?
14. Embarrassing moments can be tough to relive, but it's better if you know so you can help them overcome the past.
15. What is your teen's favorite subject? How can you help them with the one's they don't enjoy?
16. What does your teen think is the greatest gift you have ever given them?
17. Does your teen wish things at home happened any differently? It's always good to let them know their ideas are valid so listen – even if you don't agree. Talking it out is better than shutting them down.
18. The music on your teen's iPod is important. Music influences teenagers so ask what they enjoy.
19. What movie did your teen go to see last? Talk about it with them and show you care about their opinions.
20. Family life is different in every home. What is your teen's favorite part of what makes your family unique?