

Little Kids, Big Hearts: Back to School

Discussion Guide for Parents and Educators



What's “Back to School” Like This Fall?

Listen and discuss the Little Kids, Big Hearts podcast with children (aged 3-8) to explore what it means to have a “big heart.” You can use the podcast to spark conversations at your home or in your classroom. “A Back to School Like No Other” is a bonus episode in which we talk with four friends from past episodes about going back to school in fall 2021 after a year when many people experienced a challenging school year.

Discussion Prompts :

- ♥ What was school like for YOU last year?
- ♥ What were you feeling before school started this fall? Were you nervous? Excited? Scared? Happy? A mix of feelings?
- ♥ What are your hopes and dreams for this school year?
- ♥ What was the first day like? Did anything surprise you?
- ♥ What's your classroom like? What are some of the similarities and differences from your last classroom?
- ♥ How are you feeling about school now that it is underway?
- ♥ What are your favorite things you've learned so far in school this year?
- ♥ How do you think your grown-ups are feeling about you being in school this year?
- ♥ Did you hear the kids talk about any strategies — virtual hugs, touching elbows, helicopter arms, etc. — that you want to try?

Kids around the world had a BIG transition at back-to-school time this year! Talk with your child/children about their feelings about all the things that have changed ... and all the things that have stayed the same.