

# 101 Ways to Get to Know Your Co-Teacher(s)



Use this list of questions to spark laughter, curiosity, and deeper understanding between co-teachers. Whether you're just getting started, have been teaching together for years, or are somewhere in between, these prompts will help you explore how you think, what matters most, and how to best support one another.

Mix it up! Choose one question a week, draw cards from a jar, or take turns answering a few during planning meetings. Each question is a chance to learn something new, reconnect, or simply laugh together.

## 40 QUESTIONS TO GET TO KNOW A NEW CO-TEACHER

*(Start here if you're just beginning your partnership light, fun, and revealing.)*

1. What do you think will be the best thing about our co-taught classroom?
2. Why did you become a teacher?
3. What is the last book you read? Magazine? Cereal box side panel?
4. Do you like candy corn? Why or why not?
5. What's your favorite lesson of the year?
6. What's one school supply you cannot live without?
7. What's your worst habit?
8. What's your favorite movie? Favorite movie about teaching or co-teaching?
9. What's the worst hairstyle or haircut you ever had?
10. What's your best joke?

11. What was the coolest or weirdest toy you had as a child?
12. What do you like most about the first day of school?
13. What's your favorite classroom tech tool (website, app, or gadget)?
14. I wish I was better at \_\_\_\_\_.
15. I'm one of the best \_\_\_\_\_ I know.
16. I like a classroom to feel like \_\_\_\_\_.
17. In one word, what's your philosophy of education?
18. What was your prom song? What should it have been?
19. If you wrote a book for other teachers, what would the title be?
20. Are you thrilled or over-the-moon to have me as your co-teaching partner?
21. How do you like to start your day — quiet time, music, or coffee?
22. What small routines make your classroom feel like home?
23. How do you celebrate small wins?
24. What makes you feel appreciated at work?
25. What's your "teacher superpower"?
26. What kind of feedback helps you grow?
27. How do you usually respond when something doesn't go as planned?
28. What's your favorite way to connect with families?
29. How do you like to receive reminders? Sticky note, text, or carrier pigeon?
30. What kind of humor makes you laugh the hardest?
31. What part of teaching gives you the most joy?
32. If you could have a classroom theme song, what would it be?
33. How do you like to recharge during breaks or weekends?
34. What's your comfort snack or "teacher fuel"?
35. What's your favorite memory from your own time as a student?
36. What's something people are often surprised to learn about you?
37. How do you like to celebrate birthdays or special occasions at school?
38. What's your favorite classroom tradition or ritual?
39. How do you like to handle surprises or last-minute changes?
40. When you're stressed, what helps you feel grounded again?

## 40 QUESTIONS TO KEEP THE RELATIONSHIP STRONG

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*(These help you nurture communication, trust, and teamwork once you've been working together a while.)*

41. How do you prefer to handle conflict or misunderstanding?
42. What's something I can do that helps you feel supported?
43. When we disagree, what helps you stay calm or open-minded?
44. What kind of boundaries help you do your best work?
45. How do you like to divide planning time or responsibilities?
46. What are your "non-negotiables" for a great classroom day?
47. How do you show appreciation for others on the team?
48. What's your favorite way to brainstorm — lists, sticky notes, or walking and talking?
49. How do you like to end the school day?
50. What's something we've done together that you're proud of?
51. What's one classroom routine you'd never give up?
52. What's one you'd love to change or refresh?
53. How do you respond to constructive feedback?
54. What helps you feel brave enough to try new ideas?
55. How do you like to handle stress when things get busy?
56. What would your ideal planning meeting look like?
57. How can we make sure our voices are equally heard in the classroom?
58. How do you define "fairness" when working with students?
59. What do you need most from me when things feel overwhelming?
60. How do you know when you're doing your best teaching?
61. What's one thing you wish you had more time for in our day?
62. How do you like to celebrate student growth?
63. What's your go-to classroom playlist, podcast, or background noise?
64. How do you handle those days when nothing seems to go right?
65. What's one small gesture that helps you feel valued?
66. How do you prefer to communicate during the day — face-to-face, notes, texts?
67. What are your cues that you need a break?
68. What helps you refocus after a tough conversation or meeting?

69. How can we make sure we're modeling teamwork for students?
70. What do you need most on Monday mornings?
71. What do you need most on Friday afternoons?
72. How do you like to share success stories or good news?
73. What makes a professional relationship feel like a friendship to you?
74. How can we create space for laughter, even on hard days?
75. When do you feel most creative as a teacher?
76. What's one professional goal you're working toward right now?
77. What motivates you during challenging weeks?
78. How can we support each other's self-care?
79. How do you like to reflect/process— conversation, journaling, or silence?
80. What's one thing you've learned from me so far (and what have I learned from you)?

## 21 QUESTIONS EVEN SEASONED CO-TEACHERS CAN USE

*(These dive deeper — perfect for teams who already know each other but want to keep growing.)*

81. How has your teaching philosophy evolved over time?
82. What parts of your teaching identity feel most important to you right now?
83. How do you handle self-doubt or imposter syndrome?
84. What does "trust" look like to you in a co-teaching relationship?
85. How do you want students to describe our classroom?
86. What have you learned about collaboration that you wish you knew earlier?
87. What energizes you about teaching right now?
88. What drains you — and how can I help lighten that load?
89. What assumptions do you think people make about co-teaching (and how can we change them)?
90. How do you like to be encouraged or motivated?

91. What's one risk you want to take in the classroom this year?
92. How do you like to receive gratitude or recognition?
93. When you think of your best teaching days, what made them great?
94. How do you know when you need space-and how should I respond when you do?
95. What helps you rebuild trust after tension or miscommunication?
96. What professional or personal boundaries have changed for you over time?
97. What are your favorite ways to celebrate your own growth as a teacher?
98. What's one thing you'd like to be remembered for as an educator?
99. What's something you wish more people understood about inclusion?
100. What does joy look like in your teaching life these days?
101. How can we continue to bring out the best in one another?

## REFLECT & REVISIT

Your co-teaching relationship is a living thing, it grows, shifts, and deepens over time. Revisit these questions often. Pick one each month, or return to the same ones a year later and notice what's changed. The goal isn't to have all the answers, but to keep learning together, about your students, your teaching, and each other.

For detailed instructions and examples, check out the show notes from **The Inclusion Podcast**

**LISTEN NOW**

