



Discussion Guide:
Grandparenting Screen Kids

For more information and free downloads, visit:
www.screenkidsbooks.com

Introduction

Think back. What are some happy memories you have with your grandparents?

How has technology impacted your relationship with your grandchildren?

Do you talk on the phone, video chat or text your grandkids regularly?

Describe your grandchildren's relationship to screens and screen use.

Notes

Chapter 1

The Superhero of the Toy Kingdom

Does your grandchild have an iPad? If so, how much does he or she use it during your time together?

Is it difficult to pull your grandchild away from the tablet? Share what happens when the tablet is taken away or your grandchild is asked to put it down.

Are you on your phone or tablet often during your grandchild's visit?

What activities have you found work well in your home instead of screen time?

Do you have specific screen time rules for your grandchild in your home?

Notes

Chapter 2

Video Game Wars

Do your grandkids play video games while you are watching them? If so, have you watched the games before to know what they are playing? What do you think about the games?

If you have prohibited a video game in your home, share about what happened and how you and your grandchild handled it.

If you don't allow video games in your home, why did you make that decision? How do your grandkids respond to your limit?

Are you concerned about any of the video games your grandchildren are playing? Why or why not?

Have you had conversations with your adult children about any concerns you have?

Are there video games that you play with your grandchildren? Talk about that experience.

Notes

Chapter 3

The Lure of YouTube

Do you feel competent in searching YouTube or do you feel like it is foreign territory?

Do your grandkids watch YouTube while you are together? If so, for how long? Do you know what they are watching? What channels do you recommend?

What are your favorite programs to watch together (or that you feel safe having your grandchild watch alone)?

It's easy for 30 minutes of streaming entertainment to turn into one hour, then two hours. What are ways you can help your grandchild to stick to one program and then transition to a different activity like reading?

When your grandchild throws a fit because you've turned off the entertainment, how do you respond? How would you like to respond next time?

Notes

Chapter 4

Clash of the Caregivers

Do you and your adult children see eye to eye about technology and the grandkids?

If you don't agree, what discussions have been useful? Not useful?

Compare and contrast the screen time rules at your house and at your grandchild's house(s).

Are you happy about the amount of time you watch the grandkids, or do you wish it was more or less?

Have you ever shared a photo of your grandchildren online that your adult kids didn't want you to post?

Notes

Chapter 5

But I'm Exhausted!

What super power do you wish you had while watching the grandkids?

Do you find it physically taxing to care for your grandchildren?

What is the energy level of your grandchildren like?

What do you and your grandkids do together for fun?

Have you found ways to carve in a little rest for yourself while watching the grands?

How do you stay physically fit or what would you like to do in the future to improve your health? How can your grandchildren assist you in this?

Notes

Chapter 6

Making Common Courtesy Common Again

How polite is today's child compared to when you were growing up?

Does your grandchild regularly say "thank you" and "please"?

What are common courtesies you would like to work on with your grandkids?

Is your grandchild able to meet someone using eye contact and shaking hands?

Do any of your grandchildren use social media? If so, have you noticed their social skills improving or declining?

Notes

Chapter 7

Positive Screen Time

What have been some screen activities that have brought you and your grandchild closer together?

When your grandchild is watching a program, do you usually watch with him or her?

What television or radio programs, videos, or apps promote your values?

Give an example of a digital vegetable and digital junk food (digital candy). What are popular digital vegetables and digital candy for your grandchild?

Notes

Chapter 8

Conversation Counts

Do you and your grandkids talk a lot? Which grandchild is the most talkative? Who is the least talkative?

Are any of your grandchildren too preoccupied with technology to have a nice conversation with you?

When was the last time you shared a story about your life with your grandkids? What did you share?

What would you like your grandkids to know about you that they don't know already?

What areas of expertise can you teach your grandkids about? (i.e. cooking, woodworking, biking, sewing, dancing, gardening, driving, painting, etc.)

Do you text your grandchildren and vice versa? How about phone calls?

Notes

Conclusion

Legacy

What are ways you can pass a spiritual legacy to your grandkids?

Do your grandchildren share your faith?

Do you and your grandchildren talk about spiritual things? What are ways to naturally bring God into the conversation?

Do your grandchildren go to church regularly?

Have you ever hosted a “grandkid camp” or had a special vacation with your grandkids? What did you do?

Are there any changes you will make around screen time with your grandkids after reading this book?

Notes