

Title: Would You Rather? Critical Thinking	Grade: 1st Grade
Content: English Language Arts	Duration: 15 minutes, repeated multiple days

Standard:

- **W.1.1:** Write opinion pieces, state an opinion, supply a reason for the opinion.
- **W.1.10:** Demonstrate and use the rules of English grammar when writing.
- **SL.1.5:** Add drawings to descriptions to clarify ideas, thoughts, and feelings.

Objective:

The student will strengthen critical thinking skills by choosing an opinion and supporting it with logical reasoning.

Resources Needed:

- [Would You Rather? Questions](#) (examples also attached below)
- Paper & Pencil
- Crayons or Markers

Introduction/Description:

You will play a round or more of Would You Rather with your child. The child chooses from the options given and verbally expresses their reasoning. He/she will draw a picture and write to explain one reason that supports their choice. This encourages critical thinking as well as developing and supporting ideas or opinions.

Example:

Would you rather have coffee or chocolate taken away forever?

"I would rather have chocolate taken away because I really love coffee to wake me up in the morning. I also drink it to stay warm when it's cold outside. I enjoy all the different flavors and creamers you can add to coffee to keep it interesting. Coffee isn't as bad for my diet as chocolate."

Steps:

- Choose a Would You Rather? question from the list.
- Explain to your child that they will think for a moment before choosing one of the options and tell 2 or 3 reasons for that choice.
- Read the Would You Rather? question. Give them a moment to think.
- Have them tell you their choice and why. (goal is 3 reasons at least)
- The child will draw a detailed picture about one of their reasons to show their thinking.
- He/she will write a sentence to state their choice.
 - Example: *I would rather have chocolate taken away forever.*
- He/she will write at least one sentence to explain a reason why they chose that option.
 - Example: *"I really like coffee to help me wake up in the morning."*

Finished Product: You can record your child's choice and reasons to share with your teacher. The child will also have two more sentences and a picture that shows their choice and reason to share with the teacher.

Adaptations:

- Add movement- Would you rather have coffee or chocolate taken away forever?
 - If you would rather lose coffee, skip to the refrigerator. If you would rather lose chocolate, skip to the front door.
 - Hop, skip, run, walk backward, bear crawl, tiptoe, slide, crab crawl, etc.
- Have the student brainstorm or write their own Would You Rather? questions and let them take a turn at asking you.
- Great for dinner table conversation, while driving in the car or waiting in line.

Would You Rather? Question Examples

Would you rather have a pet cat or a pet fish?

Would you rather clear the table after dinner or clean up your toys before bed?

Would you rather be a police officer or a firefighter?

Would you rather be super fast or super strong?

Would you rather live without a TV or a phone?

Would you rather be a fast reader or a fast writer?

Would you rather learn to cook or learn to build?

Would you rather be an only child or have lots of siblings?

Would you rather be a wizard or a superhero?

Would you rather travel by train or airplane?

Would you rather train a horse or train a dog?

Would you rather help shovel snow or rake leaves?

Would you rather be able to talk to animals or control the weather?

Would you rather eat vegetables or drink milk at every meal?

Would you rather only have milk to drink or water to drink for the rest of your life?

Would you rather have a hug or a handshake?

Would you rather have one BEST friend or lots of OKAY friends?

Would you rather spend the night in an igloo or in a teepee?

Would you rather miss your birthday or Halloween?

Would you rather share your room with others or move into the basement/attic alone?

Would you rather read online ebooks or library books?

Would you rather have a maid or a chef work for you?

Would you rather be the BEST player on the team and always LOSE or the WORST player and always WIN?

Would you rather visit the 100 years in the past or 100 years in the future?

Would you rather get up early or stay up late?

Would you rather ride in a convertible or on the back of a motorcycle?

Would you rather have a very strict teacher that teaches you a lot or a very relaxed teacher but learn very little?