

Your Possible Home

Building Meaningful, Enduring Family Bonds in the Age of AI



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The Question Upgrade Kit

Most people approach AI like a vending machine: type a problem, hope the right thing falls out. The real power was never in the answers — it's in the questions, and this worksheet upgrades one real question of yours four ways. Bring something that actually matters this week, because practice on a fake problem teaches you nothing you'll remember.

My real question, the plain version I'd normally type: _____

Upgrade one — borrow a perspective. Whose lens would change what comes back? A calm family mediator, a child development specialist, a financial planner helping a family simplify? The role that fits my question: _____

Rewritten with the role: "Respond as _____. Here's my situation: _____"

Upgrade two — invite the pushback. The moment you're absolutely certain is usually the best time to ask what you're overlooking. Add one of these to your conversation and write what came back: What assumptions might I be making here? What information could I be missing? What might someone who disagrees with me notice? What risks am I underestimating?

The one that stung a little, and what it surfaced: _____



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Upgrade three — name the constraint. Family life runs on constraints — time, money, emotional bandwidth, a kid's nap schedule, commitments you won't trade. An open question gets you options that sound good and don't survive your actual life. The constraint that makes my question real:

Rewritten with it: "_____ without _____"

Upgrade four — test the scenarios. For decisions with weight, stop asking which option is best and start asking where each one leads: "If I choose option A, what are the likely short- and long-term effects? If I choose B, what trade-offs am I accepting?"

My options A and B: _____

The trade-off I hadn't priced in until I saw it written down: _____

Last box, and it's the one that matters: which upgrade changed the answer most for this question?

That's your default move for this category of problem from now on.

