

Unitarian Universalist Small Group Ministry Network Website
Kid Logic: The Wonders of Childhood Reasoning
First Parish Church of Stow and Acton, MA. June 2023

Opening Words and Chalice Lighting

Symbol of light and knowledge,

Symbol of warmth and freedom;

We light this chalice as a symbol of our faith.

Here we gather to celebrate hope, and the infinite possibilities of love.

- *Rev. Tom Goldsmith*

Check-in/Sharing: This is the time to mention any issues or events on your mind that you would like to share. Clarify any group summer SGM plans.

Topic: Kid Logic: The Wonders of Childhood Reasoning

Around the age of seven, children enter a developmental phase known as the age of reason, which refers to the cognitive, emotional, and moral stage in which children are more capable of rational thought, have internalized a conscience, and have better control of their impulses than when they were younger.

Children are known for their unique perspectives and creative reasoning, often coming up with imaginative explanations for the world around them. As we grow up, we tend to forget the magic of childhood reasoning and start relying more on established knowledge and facts.

Whether in your own childhood, or in your interactions with kids, in this session, we will explore the wonders of “Kid Logic” and how it can teach us valuable lessons about learning, creativity, and empathy.

“...And she pulled me aside and said, ‘You know, last night I lost a tooth and I woke up while the tooth fairy was putting the money under my pillow. And guess who the tooth fairy was?’” I said, “Oh, my god, who was it? I have to know.” And she said, ‘My dad. My dad is the tooth fairy.’” - *Rebecca, a guest on This American Life*

“As a child, she’d always wondered where the colors went when dusk faded - red and yellow to grey and black. Did they sink into the earth to reemerge with first light?” - *Anne Hillerman*

“The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existence. One cannot help but be in awe when [one] contemplates the mysteries

of eternity, of life, of the marvelous structure of reality. It is enough if one tries merely to comprehend a little of this mystery every day.” - *Albert Einstein*

“Children have a natural inclination to explore the world around them and to learn from their surroundings,” - *Sonia Sotomayor*

Possible Questions for Discussion:

- How did you learn about the world around you when you were a child? Did you rely more on your own reasoning or seek out answers from others?
- Can you recall a time when you were a child, and came up with a unique explanation for something that puzzled you? Or perhaps you got to witness kid logic in your encounters with other children?
- Do you have any examples of kid logic that speak to the development of conscience to explain something in your family or in the world that seemed heavy and needed understanding?
- What role did kid logic play in your development of impulse control? Did adult assessments of your behavior align with your belief about who you were?
- Are we losing the value of kid logic in the way we parent these days?
- Are there downsides to relying too heavily on established knowledge and facts instead of creative reasoning? Has easy access to information changed the way we think about problems and solutions?
- Have you ever had to unlearn something that you believed to be true for a long time? How did that experience affect your perspective on learning and knowledge?
- Is there any value in embracing “Kid Logic” as adults? If so, what can we learn from it?

(Group will take a few minutes to consider topic and questions and then share).

Wrapping Up: How did you like this topic and session?

Closing Words

“Play is the highest form of research.” - *Albert Einstein*