

**Sample Sexual Abuse Inquiry Questions from the Child
Abuse Prosecution Toolkit, by the Kentucky State Attorney
General's Office**

General Inquiry Questions

“Tell me what happened when...”

“Have you had any touches you didn’t like or made you feel uncomfortable?”

“How did the touching start? What happened next?”

“What did *(suspect’s name)* touch you with?”

- “You said *(suspect’s name)* touched you with his *(child’s name for suspect’s body part)*.”
- “Did *(suspect’s name)* touch you with anything else?”

“What did *(suspect’s name)*’s hand/finger/*(child’s word for penis)* do?”

“What part of your body did *(suspect’s name)* touch?”

“How did the touching feel?”

“How did it feel when *(suspect’s name)* put his *(child’s word for penis)* in your private spot?”

“Did *(suspect’s name)* touch you somewhere else on your body?”

“Did you ever see (*suspect’s name*) touch anyone else’s private spot?”

“Did anyone see (*suspect’s name*) touch your private spot?”

“Where were you when (*suspect’s name*) touched your private spot?”

“Did (*suspect’s name*) touch your private spot?

“Did (*suspect’s name*) touch your private spot when you were at any other places?”

“Did (*suspect’s name*) touch your private part once or more than once?”

“Did (*suspect’s name*) have you touch any parts of his body?”

“How did your clothes come off?”

“What did you see when you were in that room?”

“What did you hear when (*suspect’s name*) was touching your private spot?”

Penetration Questions

“Where was (*suspect’s name*)’s (*child’s term for penis*)?”

“Did (*suspect’s name*)’s (*child’s word for penis*) touch you anywhere?”

“What part of your body did *(suspect’s name)*’s *(child’s word for penis)* touch?”

“Did your *(child’s word for own genitals)* hurt? What made it hurt?”

- “Did” *(suspect’s name)*’s *(child’s name for penis)* touch inside or outside your *(child’s word for own genitals)*?”

- “How did you know? How did that feel?”

- “Did *(suspect’s name)* ever put anything else inside that part of your body?

- “Did *(suspect’s name)* ever put anything on that part of your body?”

“Did *(suspect’s name)*’s *(child’s word for penis)* touch you on your clothing or on your skin?”

“Did *(suspect’s name)* put anything on his *(child’s word for penis)*? What did it look like?”

Erection/ Masturbation Questions

“What did *(suspect’s name)*’s *(child’s word for penis)* look like?”

“Were there any marks on *(suspect’s name)*’s *(child’s word for penis)*?”

“Tell me more about what *(suspect’s name)*’s *(child’s word for penis)* looked like.”

“Did (*suspect’s name*) want you to touch him anywhere? How did he want you to touch him?”

“Did (*suspect’s name*) want you to touch his (*child’s word for penis*) in a certain way?”

“What did (*suspect’s name*) do while he made you do that?”

“What did (*suspect’s name*) say when he made you do that?”

“How did (*suspect’s name*)’s (*child’s word for penis*) feel when you touched it?”

“What did you hear when you were touching (*child’s word for penis*)?”

Ejaculation Questions

“What happened to (*suspect’s name*)’s (*child’s word for penis*) after he made you touch it?”

“What did he call the (*child’s word for semen*)?”

“What do you call that stuff?”

“Where did (*child’s word for semen*) come from?”

“After (*child’s word for semen*) came out of (*child’s word for penis*), where was the (*child’s word for semen*)?”

“What did (*child’s word for semen*) look like?”

“What did (*child’s word for semen*) feel like?”

“What did (*child’s word for semen*) taste like?”

- “Did (*suspect’s name*) say anything when (*child’s word for semen*) came out?”
- “Did (*suspect’s name*) make any noises/sounds?”

“Did (*suspect’s name*) ask you to do anything after (*child’s word for semen*) came out?”

“What did (*suspect’s name*) do after (*child’s word for semen*) came out?”

Nudity Questions

“What were you wearing when...?”

“What was (*suspect’s name*) wearing when...?”

“Was there anything special about (*suspect’s name*)’s clothes?”

“How did your clothes come off?”

“How did (*suspect’s name*)’s clothes come off?”

“Were all of your clothes off?”

To clarify confusion about conflicting reports that her/his clothes were on, but penetration occurred

Ask: “You said your clothes were on. You said he put his (*penis name*) in your private spot. I don’t understand that part. Tell me more about that?”

Oral Contact/French Kissing Questions:

“Did (*suspect’s name*)’s mouth touch you anywhere?”

“What did (*suspect’s name*) do with his mouth?”

“Did (*suspect’s name*)’s mouth touch any other parts of your body?”

- “Did (*suspect’s name*) want you to kiss him anywhere?”
- “Did (*suspect’s name*) want you to suck him anywhere else?”
- “Did (*suspect’s name*) want you to lick him anywhere else?”

“What did (*suspect’s name*)’s mouth do? What did (*suspect’s name*)’s lips do? What did (*suspect’s name*)’s tongue do?”

- “How did (*suspect’s name*)’s mouth feel?”
- “How did (*suspect’s name*)’s lips feel?”
- “How did (*suspect’s name*)’s tongue feel?”

How did (*suspect’s name*)’s kisses feel?”

Pornography Questions

“Did (*suspect’s name*) show you any pictures/books/magazines/movies/videos/shows?”

- “What were the pictures/books/magazine/movies/videos/shows about?”
- “What did you see in the pictures, books, magazines, movies, videos, shows?”

“Did (*suspect’s name*) show you anything when he (*child’s word for abuse*) you?”

- “Did (*suspect’s name*) take any pictures/videos/tik toks/snapchats?”
- “What did he take pictures/videos/tik toks/snapchats of?”

“Where does (*suspect’s name*) keep the pictures/videos/tik toks/snapchats?”

“Did (*suspect’s name*) show the pictures, books, magazines, movies, videos to anyone else?”

“What were the movies/videos about?”

“Where was the camera/phone when (*suspect’s name*) took pictures/videos?”

Possible Questions About the Child's Fears for Reasons for Secrecy

“Did someone tell you not to tell? Who? What did he/she say would happen if you told?”

- “Did you ever tell anyone besides (*name of person child most recently disclosed to*)?”
- “What happened after you told him/her?”
- “What made you decide to tell what happened?”
- “Do you know what a secret is?”
- “Tell me what it is.”

“Has someone asked you to keep a secret?” What was the secret?”

- “Did (*suspect's name*) tell you he would do something for you if you didn't tell?”
- “What did he say?”

If child appears scared or you believe they have been threatened, you may say:

“Sometimes kids are really scared to tell what happened to them. You seem scared to talk to me. Tell me about that.”

Possible Questions About Physical Abuse

“What happens if you do something you’re not supposed to?”

- “What else happens when you do something you’re not supposed to?”
- “Who punishes you?”

“What does *(the person named)* do?”

“When was the last time *(suspect’s name)* *(child’s word for abuse)* you?”

“What does *(suspect’s name)* use to *(child’s word for abuse)* you with?”

- “Where on your body does *(suspect’s name)* *(child’s word for abuse)* you?”
- “Any other places?”

“How does that feel?”

“What did you think about?”

“What does *(suspect’s name)* do when your brother/sister does something he/she is not supposed to?”

- “What was the worst punishment you ever got?”
- “What had you done to get that punishment?”
- “What did *(suspect’s name)* say you did to get that punishment?”

“Does (*suspect’s name*) ever say anything when he does that?”
What does he say?”

“Did anyone see (*suspect’s name*) do that to you? How do you know?”

“What happened after (*suspect’s name*) did that to you? Did you go to the doctor/hospital?”

“Has anyone else done (*child’s word for abuse*) to you?”

- “Who spans you?”
- “What does he/she spank you with?”
- “Where on your body does, he/she spank you?”
- “How does it feel?”

If the child used the word “hurt”

“Have you been hurt in any other way?”

If the child has injuries such as bruises or scars, you may ask directly the following:

“How did that happen? or Tell me everything you remember about how you got that bruise.”

Possible Questions about Witnessed Abuse

“Tell me what you saw when...?”

“Tell me what you heard when...?”

“Tell me about the other the times you saw...?”

“Where were you when...?”

“When (*suspect’s name*) did that, how did he/she look? What did he/she say?”

“Right after (*suspect’s name*) did that, what happened?”

“Did anyone else see (*suspect’s name*) do that?”

- “Has (*suspect’s name*) ever done that to anyone else?”
- “Tell me all about that.”
- “Have the police ever come to your house?”
- “Why did they come?”

Possible Questions About the Child’s Fears for Reasons for Secrecy

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- “Who?”
- “What did he/she say would happen if you told?”
- “Did you ever tell anyone besides (*name of person child most recently disclosed to*)?”
- “What happened after you told him/her?”

“What made you decide to tell what happened?”

“Do you know what a secret is? Tell me what it is.”

- “Has someone asked you to keep a secret?”
- “What was the secret?”
- “Did (*suspect’s name*) tell you he would do something for you if you didn’t tell?”
- “What did he say?”

If child appears scared or you believe they have been threatened, you may say:

“Sometimes kids are really scared to tell what happened to them. You seem scared to talk to me. Tell me about that.”

Discovering the Offender and Determining Who Was Involved:

“Did (*suspect’s name*) ever do anything else you didn’t like?”

- “Does anyone else know about (child’s word for abuse)?”
- “Who?”
- “How does he/she know?”
- “Who was the first person you told?”
- “Who was the first person you tried to tell?”
- “What happened after you told him/her?”
- “What did that person say/do?”

- “Was anyone else there when *(child’s word for abuse)* happened?”
- “What was/were he/she/they doing while *(suspect’s name)* *(child’s word for abuse)* you?”
- “Do you know if *(suspect’s name)* has done this to anyone else?”
- “Who?”
- “How do you know?”
- “Has anyone else ever *(child’s word for abuse)* to you?”
- “Has anything like *(child’s word for abuse)* ever happened to you before?”