

## WORKSHEET 3

# QUESTIONS FOR YOU TO ASK YOUR CHILD

To guide conversations with your child, you may find it helpful to work through the following questions together (as age appropriate). You may also wish to revisit these questions as treatment progresses to check in with your child.

What do you know about cancer and cancer treatment? Do you know anyone who has cancer? (Many children have experiences with older adults who have cancer. If your child has had such an encounter, this can be a helpful way to open a discussion; however, it is important to share with your child that childhood cancers are different than adult cancers. You may need to address concerns related to these differences. Let your child explain what he or she knows about cancer so you can correct any misinformation.)

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What do you know about your illness and treatment plan (medicine)? (If you explain new information about a procedure or treatment, ask your child to repeat the information back to you so you can correct any misunderstandings.)

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Is there a special toy or item that you would like to take with you to appointments? (Ask the healthcare team if you need to take any precautions with toys and items that you bring to appointments.)

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Is there anything you are worried or scared about? Will you let me know if you feel scared or worried?

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Do you have questions for your doctor? Would you like to ask these questions or do you want me to ask them for you? Would you like to talk to your doctor alone?

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Would you like to read or learn more about your cancer and treatment plan?

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Is there anyone you want to tell about your cancer diagnosis? Is there anyone you would like for me to tell for you?

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Are you okay with me sharing updates about your treatment or well-being with other family members and friends?

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Are there any things that you would like to do on your own? (Older children, especially teenagers, may wish to do some tasks on their own. As your child is able, encourage him or her to continue taking care of his or her hygiene and personal care or household chores on his or her own.)

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Is there anything that you need or want me to help you do?

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Would you like to talk to other children your age with a cancer diagnosis? (Ask members of the healthcare team if there is a children's support group in your area.)

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