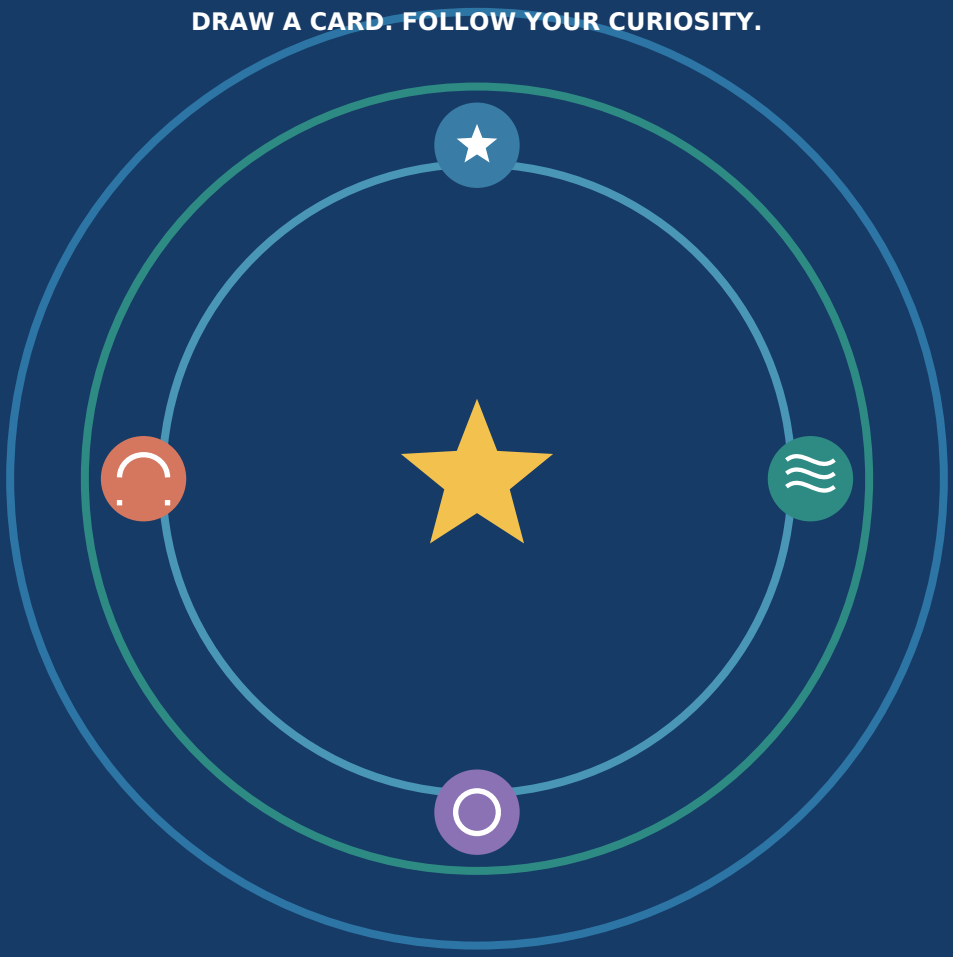
DRAW A CARD. FOLLOW YOUR CURIOSITY.



TOM TOM'S FOUR PILLARS ACTIVITY DECK

32 playful home learning invitations

8 cards for each pillar • Cut out, choose, adapt and repeat

BRIAN'S • WAVES • CIRCLES • BRIDGES

By Counsellor Tomass J. Wood | www.tomtomuniverse.co.uk

How to use the activity deck

A small invitation can open up a whole learning adventure.

1. Print and cut

The cards are grouped by pillar. Keep them in four envelopes, a small box or one mixed-up deck.

2. Let the child choose

Offer a card face up, draw one at random, or pick a pillar that fits the moment. Passing is allowed.

3. Make the activity accessible

Shorten the prompt, use familiar interests, model one step, or let the child watch first.

4. Accept many ways to learn

Speaking is one option. Drawing, choosing, pointing, building, movement, typing, signing, pictures and supported communication count too.

5. Notice, do not score

The card is an invitation, not an assessment. Celebrate curiosity, connection, asking for help, a pause or a new attempt.

A QUICK PILLAR CHECK-IN

Brian's: What is on my mind? | Waves: What does my energy need? | Circles: What happens next? | Bridges: How can we connect?

BRIAN'S - Activity Cards

THINK • WONDER • IMAGINE | Cut around the dashed edges and choose one card.

CARD 01

Wonder Jar

TRY THIS

Choose an object near you. Imagine three questions you could ask about it. Pick one question to explore.

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Ask, point, draw, dictate, type or show what you notice.

My choice / idea: _____

CARD 02

Feeling Detective

TRY THIS

Choose a character from a book. What might they be thinking or feeling? What clues helped you decide?

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Use words, colours, a face, a drawing or a movement.

My choice / idea: _____

CARD 03

What If? Machine

TRY THIS

Finish a playful “What if...?” idea. What if shoes could talk? What might happen next?

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Tell a tiny story, act it, sketch it or build a model.

My choice / idea: _____

CARD 04

Thought Bubbles

TRY THIS

Draw a character and add two thought bubbles: one they might say aloud and one they might keep inside.

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Use speech, symbols, pictures, dictation or writing.

My choice / idea: _____

BRIAN'S - Activity Cards

THINK • WONDER • IMAGINE | Cut around the dashed edges and choose one card.

CARD 05

Question Collector

TRY THIS

Look at a picture, object or window view. Collect five questions. Choose one to investigate.

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

List, record, point to or voice-note your questions.

My choice / idea: _____

CARD 06

Story Twist

TRY THIS

Retell a favourite story but change one detail: the place, helper, weather or ending.

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Use toys, pictures, acting, audio or a few written lines.

My choice / idea: _____

CARD 07

Brian's Toolbox

TRY THIS

Draw or list three things that help you think, remember or get started. Choose one to use today.

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Show your tools with objects, pictures or words.

My choice / idea: _____

CARD 08

Teach a Puppy

TRY THIS

Teach a toy, family member or imaginary friend how to do something you know.

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Demonstrate, explain, sequence pictures or make a mini guide.

My choice / idea: _____

WAVES - Activity Cards

NOTICE • MOVE • RESET | Cut around the dashed edges and choose one card.

CARD 09

WAVES

Wave Weather

TRY THIS

Choose a weather word for your energy right now: sunny, breezy, cloudy, rainy or mixed. What might help?

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Point, choose a colour, move, draw or use your own word.

My choice / idea: _____

CARD 10

WAVES

Move and Notice

TRY THIS

Pick a comfortable movement: stretch, walk, dance, roll a ball or wiggle. Notice one thing afterwards.

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Show, tell, draw or simply take the movement break.

My choice / idea: _____

CARD 11

WAVES

Soundtrack Maker

TRY THIS

Choose a sound or song that fits a place in a story. Notice what you like or want to change.

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Hum, tap, choose a picture, listen quietly or skip sound.

My choice / idea: _____

CARD 12

WAVES

Tiny Comfort Kit

TRY THIS

Choose three safe things that help a learning space feel more comfortable. Make a mini comfort menu.

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Draw them, collect them with permission or name them.

My choice / idea: _____

WAVES - Activity Cards

NOTICE • MOVE • RESET | Cut around the dashed edges and choose one card.

CARD 13

WAVES

Fast and Slow

TRY THIS

Try doing a simple safe task at two different paces. Which pace feels easier or more fun?

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Show the difference with movement, objects or a mark.

My choice / idea: _____

CARD 14

WAVES

Energy Experiment

TRY THIS

Before and after a break, notice your energy in a way that suits you. What changed, if anything?

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Use two colours, symbols, numbers, words or gestures.

My choice / idea: _____

CARD 15

WAVES

Choose a Reset

TRY THIS

Pick one reset: water, fresh air, quiet, stretch, snack or a pause. Notice what you want next.

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

No explanation required; choosing is enough.

My choice / idea: _____

CARD 16

WAVES

Outside Observer

TRY THIS

From a safe place, notice a cloud, leaf, bird, breeze or moving shadow. What changes?

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Sketch, photograph with permission, describe or watch.

My choice / idea: _____

CIRCLES - Activity Cards

PLAN • REPEAT • FEEL READY | Cut around the dashed edges and choose one card.

CARD 17

CIRCLES

Secret Sequence

TRY THIS

Choose a familiar routine. Draw or arrange its steps in order, from first to finished.

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Use objects, pictures, words, gestures or a photo sequence.

My choice / idea: _____

CARD 18

CIRCLES

Pattern Builder

TRY THIS

Make a repeating pattern with colours, sounds, steps or objects. Invite someone to continue it.

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Build it, move it, draw it or describe the rule.

My choice / idea: _____

CARD 19

CIRCLES

Morning Mini-Circle

TRY THIS

Design a calm first-five-minutes routine for a learning day. Keep it realistic and flexible.

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Choose from drink, plan, stretch, book, quiet or another idea.

My choice / idea: _____

CARD 20

CIRCLES

Ready Box

TRY THIS

Choose what could go in a small “ready for learning” box or tray. Ask before borrowing items.

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Draw or list the items; making the box is optional.

My choice / idea: _____

CIRCLES - Activity Cards

PLAN • REPEAT • FEEL READY | Cut around the dashed edges and choose one card.

CARD 21

CIRCLES

First-Then Bridge

TRY THIS

Pick one task and one enjoyable next activity. Make a first-then reminder.

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Use words, symbols, drawings, objects or a spoken preview.

My choice / idea: _____

CARD 22

CIRCLES

Repeat and Change

TRY THIS

Repeat a favourite activity, changing just one part. What stayed familiar? What changed?

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Show the old and new version in any way.

My choice / idea: _____

CARD 23

CIRCLES

Make a Circle

TRY THIS

Invent a three-step routine for starting a project, taking a break or finishing.

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Name the steps, choose a signal or make a visual card.

My choice / idea: _____

CARD 24

CIRCLES

Plan B Circle

TRY THIS

Choose a normal plan and imagine one small change. What familiar thing could help?

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Draw a new route, pick a helper or name a comfort item.

My choice / idea: _____

BRIDGES - Activity Cards

CONNECT • COMMUNICATE • SHARE | Cut around the dashed edges and choose one card.

CARD 25

Show Me Your Idea

TRY THIS

Choose an idea you want someone to understand. Find one way to share it with them.

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Talk, sign, point, type, draw, show an object or ask for help.

My choice / idea: _____

CARD 26

Book Bridge

TRY THIS

Pick a moment from a story that connects to real life. What does it remind you of?

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Share privately, draw a link, act it or just think about it.

My choice / idea: _____

CARD 27

Teach Me One Thing

TRY THIS

Teach someone a fact, skill, game or interest that matters to you. Let them ask one question.

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Demonstrate, make a list, show a clip you choose or use pictures.

My choice / idea: _____

CARD 28

Help Signal

TRY THIS

Create a simple sign, card or gesture that means “I need help” or “more time, please”.

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Use your usual communication or make a new reminder.

My choice / idea: _____

BRIDGES - Activity Cards

CONNECT • COMMUNICATE • SHARE | Cut around the dashed edges and choose one card.

CARD 29

Family Interview

TRY THIS

Ask a trusted person about a favourite childhood game, song, place or book.

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Ask aloud, write, message, draw a question or listen.

My choice / idea: _____

CARD 30

Build Together

TRY THIS

Make something together using safe household materials. Take turns choosing what happens next.

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Join by choosing, watching, passing pieces or directing.

My choice / idea: _____

CARD 31

Share Without Words

TRY THIS

Pick a picture, object or creation and let someone discover what you like about it.

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

Point, arrange, gesture, type or use a communication aid.

My choice / idea: _____

CARD 32

Kindness Mission

TRY THIS

Think of one small kind action that feels comfortable and safe for you. Choose whether to try it.

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

A kind word, helpful action, note, drawing or friendly wave.

My choice / idea: _____

Make your own activity cards

Add a family interest, favourite book, practical skill or new idea.

OUR ACTIVITY IDEA

PILLAR: BRIAN'S / WAVES / CIRCLES / BRIDGES

TRY THIS

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

MY NOTES / PICTURE

OUR ACTIVITY IDEA

PILLAR: BRIAN'S / WAVES / CIRCLES / BRIDGES

TRY THIS

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

MY NOTES / PICTURE

OUR ACTIVITY IDEA

PILLAR: BRIAN'S / WAVES / CIRCLES / BRIDGES

TRY THIS

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

MY NOTES / PICTURE

OUR ACTIVITY IDEA

PILLAR: BRIAN'S / WAVES / CIRCLES / BRIDGES

TRY THIS

SHOW IT YOUR WAY

MY NOTES / PICTURE

My Activity Deck Trail

Keep a light record of what you tried, changed, enjoyed or want to repeat.

DAY	CARD / PILLAR	MY CHOICE	WHAT I NOTICED
It is fine to write a few words, add symbols, draw, use stickers or leave a row blank.			

Four Pillars quick guide

Use the pillar that helps you understand what the child may need in this moment.

BRIAN'S

Thoughts, feelings, imagination, curiosity and questions.

Ask: “What might Brian be telling us?”

WAVES

Energy and emotion can rise, shift and settle.

Ask: “What would help this Wave?”

CIRCLES

Routines and repetition can make the next step clearer.

Ask: “What happens first, then what?”

BRIDGES

Communication and connection help a child join in their own way.

Ask: “What Bridge could make this easier?”