

Productive Talk Goals and Moves



Goal One: Help individual students share, expand, and clarify their own thinking	Observations
1. Time to think: Partner talk; writing as think time; wait time	
2. Say more: “Can you say more?”; “What do you mean by that?”; “Give an example”	
3. So, are you saying...?: “So, let me see if I’ve got what you’re saying. Are you saying...?” (always leaving space for the original student to agree or disagree and say more)	
Goal Two: Help students listen carefully to one another	Observations
4. Who can rephrase or repeat?: “Who can repeat what Javon just said or put it into their own words?” (After a partner talk) “What did your partner say?”	
Goal Three: Help students deepen their reasoning	Observations
5. Asking for evidence or reasoning: “Why do you think that?” “What’s your evidence?” “How did you arrive at that conclusion?”	
6. Challenge or Counterexample: “Does it always work that way?” “How does that idea square with Sonia’s example?” “What if it had been a copper cube instead?”	
Goal Four: Help students think with others	Observations
7. Agree/Disagree and Why?: “Do you agree/disagree? (And why?)” “What do people think about what Ian said?” “Does anyone want to respond to that idea?”	
8. Add On: “Who can add onto the idea that Jamal is building?” “Can anyone take that suggestion and push it a little further?”	
9. Explaining What Someone Else Means: “Who can explain what Aisha means when she says that?” “Why do you think he said that?”	

Other Observations: