

## Teacher Talk Moves<sup>1</sup>

Use these prompts during discussions to guide students in taking ownership of their thinking and meeting the following goals.

**Goal One:** Students clearly express their ideas through writing or speaking.

- Take 60 seconds to write your response or share your answer with a partner.
- What do you think about \_\_\_\_?
- How did you answer (the question)?
- What is the most important idea you are communicating?
- What is your main point?

**Goal Two:** Students listen carefully and clearly understand others' ideas presented in writing or speaking.

- Let me see if I heard you correctly. You said \_\_\_\_.
- I heard you say \_\_\_\_\_. Is that correct?
- Put another way, you're saying \_\_\_\_\_.
- Say more about \_\_\_\_\_.
- I'm confused when you say \_\_\_\_\_. Say more about that.
- Give me an example.
- Who can rephrase what \_\_\_\_\_ said?

**Goal Three:** Students provide evidence and explanation to support their claims.

- What in the text makes you think so?
- How do you know? Why do you think that?
- Explain how you came to your idea.

**Goal Four:** Students establish new ways of thinking by elaborating on or challenging the thoughts of others.

- Who can add to what X said?
- Who agrees/disagrees with X?
- Who wants to challenge what X said? Why?
- How does that idea compare with X's idea?
- What do you think about X's idea?
- Whose thinking has changed as a result of this conversation? How and why has it changed?
- Now that you've heard \_\_\_\_\_ (summarize the conversation so far) \_\_\_\_\_, what are you thinking? What are you still wondering about?

Wait time is useful for meeting each conversation goal. Allow enough time after asking a question for students to think through their responses and before responding to student responses to encourage students to add more information.

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<sup>1</sup> Adapted from <https://www.nsta.org/conferences/docs/2015SummerInstituteElementary/NineTalkMovesFromTERC.pdf>.