

Talk Link Challenge

Ask, answer, and connect ideas in a group talk.

GRADE 4 • SL.4.1c

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.4.1c "Pose and respond to specific questions to clarify or follow up on information, and make comments that contribute to the discussion and link to the remarks of others."

NAME _____

DATE _____

OUR GROUND RULES Read together first

1 Speak one at a time.

2 Listen to each speaker.

3 Ask about ideas, not people.

4 Play a card only after you use its starter.

HOW TO PLAY Teams of 3 or 4

1. Choose one Topic Card and read its question aloud.
2. Choose a Role Card. Use two copies of the Move Cards, then deal 4 Move Cards to each player.
3. Take turns sharing ideas about the topic. Listen for a Move Card that fits what someone says.
4. Say the starter on your card and finish it with your own words. Then place that card in the middle.
5. Keep talking until every dealt card is in the middle. Check the reflection statements together.

AFTER THE ROUND Check what you did

☐ I asked a question that helped me understand an idea.

☐ I answered a question with a clear detail.

☐ I connected my comment to someone else's idea.

☐ I used a follow-up question or comment to keep the talk moving.

**TOPIC CARDS** · pick one per round

TOPIC	TOPIC	TOPIC
Indoor Recess What should our class choose for an indoor recess activity, and why?	Classroom Jobs Which classroom job helps our class the most, and why?	Class Library What would make our class library easier for everyone to use?

ROLE CARDS · one per player

ROLE	ROLE	ROLE	ROLE
Question Scout Listen for questions and make sure someone answers each one.	Link Finder Listen for comments that connect to an earlier idea.	Turn Guide Notice who has not spoken and invite that person to take the next turn.	Card Keeper Watch that players place a card in the middle only after using its starter.

MOVE CARDS · deal 4 to each player

MOVE CARD CLARIFY IDEA “Could you explain what you mean by ____?”	MOVE CARD CLARIFY IDEA “What do you mean by ____?”	MOVE CARD FOLLOW UP “Why do you think ____?”	MOVE CARD FOLLOW UP “What might happen if ____?”
MOVE CARD LINK IDEAS “That connects to your idea because ____.”	MOVE CARD LINK IDEAS “I agree with your idea because ____.”	MOVE CARD ANSWER QUESTION “To answer your question, ____.”	MOVE CARD ANSWER QUESTION “I would answer that by saying ____.”

Print one card sheet per team. Cards last longer on thick paper.

RUNNING THE ROUNDS

Use one Topic Card for each round. Print two copies of the Move Cards so every player can receive four cards, and set aside four cards when three students play. If participation is uneven, pause after a card is played and have the Turn Guide invite a student who has spoken less to take the next turn.

WHAT A STRONG ROUND SOUNDS LIKE

Mia	I would answer that by saying drawing is a good indoor recess activity.
Noah	Could you explain what you mean by a good activity?
Mia	To answer your question, many people can draw at the same time.
Ava	That connects to your idea because we would not need to wait for one set of game pieces.
Liam	What might happen if some students do not want to draw?

LISTEN FOR

- Specific questions about a speaker's exact words or idea
- Answers that give a detail after a question
- Comments that say how one idea connects to another
- Follow-up questions that build on the group talk

There are no right answers to the topic cards. Score the moves students make, not their opinions.