

Talk Style Switch

Choose words that fit the situation.

GRADE 4 • 4L3.c

4L3.c "Distinguish between contexts that call for formal English (e.g., presenting ideas) and situations where informal discourse is appropriate (e.g., small-group discussion)."

NAME _____

DATE _____

OUR GROUND RULES Read together first

1 Say the starter and finish it with your own idea.

2 Match your words to the audience and purpose.

3 Listen before you play your next card.

4 Let everyone speak before someone takes a second turn.

HOW TO PLAY Teams of 3 or 4

1. Choose a Topic card and read the question aloud.
2. Each player takes a different Role card.
3. Use enough copies of the Move cards so each player gets four cards.
4. Take turns talking about the topic. When you use a card's starter naturally, place that card in the middle.
5. End the round when every card is in the middle, then check the reflection statements.

AFTER THE ROUND Check what you did

☐ I changed my words for a formal audience.

☐ I used relaxed words that fit group planning.

☐ I explained why certain words fit the situation.

☐ I listened and responded to another person's idea.

**TOPIC CARDS** · pick one per round

TOPIC	TOPIC	TOPIC
Recess Choice Choose one recess game for your class. How will you talk while planning with your group, then present your choice to the principal?	Library Visit Plan one activity your class could do at the library. How will you talk while planning with your group, then present your request to the librarian?	Classroom Change Choose one change that could help your classroom. How will you talk while planning with your group, then present your plan to the teacher?

ROLE CARDS · one per player

ROLE	ROLE	ROLE	ROLE
Audience Scout Notice who the group is speaking to and point out when the audience changes.	Formal Finder Listen for respectful, complete words that fit a formal presentation.	Group Guide Listen for relaxed words that fit planning with classmates.	Turn Tracker Make sure each player gets a chance to use a Move card.

MOVE CARDS · deal 4 to each player

MOVE CARD	MOVE CARD	MOVE CARD	MOVE CARD
FORMAL MESSAGE “In a formal message, I would say, “ ____.””	FORMAL MESSAGE “A respectful way to share our idea is, “ ____.””	GROUP TALK “In our small group, I could say, “ ____.””	GROUP TALK “While we are planning, I could say, “ ____.””
EXPLAIN CHOICE “I chose formal words because ____.”	EXPLAIN CHOICE “I can talk more casually with my group because ____.”	AUDIENCE CHECK “I would change my words when I speak to ____.”	WORD SWITCH “A more formal word I can use is ____.”

Cards last longer on thick paper.

RUNNING THE ROUNDS

Print enough copies of the eight Move cards for every player to receive four cards, then rotate roles and choose a new topic for each round. The sample exchange models the Recess Choice card. If participation is uneven, pause the discussion and have the Turn Tracker invite a player who has spoken less to respond before anyone plays another card.

WHAT A STRONG ROUND SOUNDS LIKE

Noah	In our small group, I could say, "Let's choose four square for recess."
Ava	I can talk more casually with my group because we are planning together.
Mia	In a formal message, I would say, "Our class would like to choose four square for recess."
Leo	A respectful way to share our idea is, "Please consider allowing our class to play four square."
Noah	I chose formal words because we are presenting our idea to the principal.

LISTEN FOR

- students name the audience or purpose before changing their wording
- formal statements use respectful, complete language for an adult audience
- small-group talk sounds natural and collaborative
- students explain why a word choice fits a situation

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