

Talk It Through

Prepare, connect ideas, and explore a topic together.

GRADE 4 • 4LS1.a

4LS1.a "Come to discussions prepared, having read or studied required material; draw on that preparation and other information known about the topic to explore ideas under discussion."

NAME _____

DATE _____

OUR GROUND RULES Read together first

1 Read the topic before you speak.

2 Use things you know or have experienced.

3 Listen fully before you respond.

4 Play a card only after you truly use its words.

HOW TO PLAY Teams of 3 or 4

1. Choose one Topic card and read the question together.
2. Think quietly for one minute about your own experiences and ideas.
3. Take one Role card each. Use two copies of the Move cards, then deal four Move cards to each player.
4. Take turns sharing ideas, connections, and questions. When you use a Move card starter naturally, place that card in the middle.
5. Keep talking until every dealt Move card is in the middle. Then state your group's best answer to the Topic card.

AFTER THE ROUND Check what you did

☐ I thought of an idea before I spoke.

☐ I used something I know or have experienced.

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

☐ I asked or answered a question that helped us explore an idea.

**TOPIC CARDS** · pick one per round

TOPIC	TOPIC	TOPIC
Better Recess What one new recess choice would help more students have fun, and why?	Helpful Classroom What class job would make your classroom work better, and why?	Reading Spot What would make a class reading spot comfortable and useful for many students?

ROLE CARDS · one per player

ROLE	ROLE	ROLE	ROLE
Memory Miner Listen for ideas based on something group members have seen, done, or learned.	Link Maker Listen for connected ideas and point out when two ideas fit together.	Question Scout Make sure the group asks questions that help everyone understand ideas better.	Voice Keeper Make sure each player gets a turn to speak and uses Move cards honestly.

MOVE CARDS · deal 4 to each player

MOVE CARD PREPARED THOUGHT “I prepared by thinking about ____.”	MOVE CARD REMEMBERED DETAIL “Before we talk, I remembered ____.”	MOVE CARD KNOWN EVIDENCE “I know this because I have seen or done ____.”	MOVE CARD REAL EXAMPLE “One example I remember is ____.”
MOVE CARD ADD ON “I want to add to ____’s idea because ____.”	MOVE CARD MAKE CONNECTION “____’s idea connects to ____ because ____.”	MOVE CARD ASK HOW “Can you explain how ____ would work?”	MOVE CARD ASK WHY “What makes you think ____?”

Cards last longer on thick paper.

RUNNING THE ROUNDS

Print two copies of the eight Move cards so groups of three or four can each receive four cards. Give students one quiet minute to prepare after they choose a topic, then circulate for genuine use of the starters. If one student is speaking too often, have the Voice Keeper pause that student until each other player has taken a turn.

WHAT A STRONG ROUND SOUNDS LIKE

Ava	I prepared by thinking about when I read in our class, and I think the reading spot needs soft pillows.
Mateo	I know this because I have used a pillow during independent reading, and it helped me sit still.
Lila	Mateo's idea connects to quiet chairs because both could help readers focus.
Noah	Can you explain how the pillows would stay neat?
Ava	One example I remember is our labeled book bins, so we could keep the pillows in a labeled basket.

LISTEN FOR

- prepared ideas drawn from personal experience or prior learning
- specific examples that support an opinion
- clear connections to another speaker's idea
- questions that press for explanation or reasons

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