

Talk It Forward

Use moves that help ideas grow.

GRADE 7 • 7SL1

7SL1 "Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions with diverse partners; express ideas clearly and persuasively, and build on those of others."

NAME _____

DATE _____

OUR GROUND RULES Read together first

1 Speak one at a time.

2 Use a move card naturally.

3 Respond to someone else's idea.

4 Disagree with reasons, not insults.

HOW TO PLAY Teams of 3 or 4

1. Choose one TOPIC card and read the question aloud.
2. Each player takes one ROLE card.
3. Use two copies of the MOVE cards, then deal four cards to each player.
4. Discuss the topic. Play a card in the middle when you genuinely use its starter.
5. Keep talking until every player has played all four cards, then complete the reflection.

AFTER THE ROUND Check what you did

☐ I shared my ideas clearly.

☐ I gave reasons for my thinking.

☐ I built on another person's idea.

☐ I listened and responded respectfully.

**TOPIC CARDS** · pick one per round

TOPIC	TOPIC	TOPIC
Later Start Should your school day start 30 minutes later? Decide what your group recommends and why.	Phone Choice Should students be allowed to use phones during lunch? Create a rule your group could support.	Homework Balance What is a fair amount of homework for one night? Agree on a recommendation and explain it.

ROLE CARDS · one per player

ROLE	ROLE	ROLE	ROLE
Idea Catcher Listen for important ideas and bring back an idea that has not been discussed enough.	Question Scout Ask questions that help speakers explain their reasons or examples.	Connection Maker Point out when two ideas connect, support each other, or conflict.	Fair Voice Notice who has not spoken much and invite that person to share an idea.

MOVE CARDS · deal 4 to each player

MOVE CARD	MOVE CARD	MOVE CARD	MOVE CARD
SHARE VIEW “I think ____ because ____.”	SHARE VIEW “From my experience, ____, so ____.”	ASK WHY “What makes you think ____?”	ASK WHY “Can you say more about ____?”
MOVE CARD	MOVE CARD	MOVE CARD	MOVE CARD
BUILD ON “I want to build on ____'s idea by adding ____.”	BUILD ON “That connects to ____ because ____.”	CHALLENGE KINDLY “I see it differently because ____.”	CHALLENGE KINDLY “Another possibility is ____ because ____.”

Cards last longer on thick paper.

RUNNING THE ROUNDS

Use one topic per round and print two copies of the move-card set so each player can receive four cards. Circulate for genuine use of starters, not simply reading cards aloud. If participation is uneven, have the Fair Voice pause the discussion and invite a quieter player to use a card before the group continues.

WHAT A STRONG ROUND SOUNDS LIKE

Maya	I think our school should start later because students would have more time to sleep.
Jordan	What makes you think more sleep would help students at school?
Maya	From my experience, I focus better when I have slept enough, so I think other students might too.
Luis	I want to build on Maya's idea by adding that students might arrive with more energy for first period.
Ava	I see it differently because a later start could make after-school sports end later.

LISTEN FOR

- claims supported by clear reasons or examples
- questions that press for explanation
- references to a previous speaker's idea
- respectful agreement or disagreement with reasons

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