

Talk Team Tactics

Use discussion moves to make teamwork better.

GRADE 6 • 6.C.1.A.vi

6.C.1.A.vi "Facilitate and contribute to a range of sustained collaborative discussions with diverse partners on grade six topics and texts. This includes: Evaluating the effectiveness of participant interactions and one's own contributions to the..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

OUR GROUND RULES Read together first

1 Use a card only after you truly say the starter.

2 Listen to an idea before you respond.

3 Share speaking time with everyone.

4 Disagree with ideas, not people.

HOW TO PLAY Teams of 3 or 4

1. Form a group of 3 or 4. Choose one TOPIC card and read it aloud.
2. Each player takes a different ROLE card. Give each player 4 MOVE cards, making extra copies of the 8-card set if needed.
3. Discuss the topic and do your role job. Keep the TOPIC card where everyone can see it.
4. When you genuinely say a starter and finish it with your own idea, place that MOVE card in the middle.
5. Keep talking until all cards in your group are in the middle. Then check the reflection statements.

AFTER THE ROUND Check what you did

☐ I used a move to respond to another person's idea.

☐ I helped make space for another person to speak.

☐ I noticed whether our discussion was working and named a next step.

☐ I can name one way I helped the group and one thing I will improve.


TOPIC CARDS · pick one per round

TOPIC	TOPIC	TOPIC
New Student Welcome What first-day welcome plan, with three helpful actions, would help a new student feel ready, and which action should happen first?	Lunch Space Change What one change to the lunch area would make it more comfortable for different students, and why?	Club Choice What free after-school club should the school add, what two activities would it offer, and why would students join?

ROLE CARDS · one per player

ROLE	ROLE	ROLE	ROLE
Voice Scout Keep track of whose ideas have been heard, and invite a group member who has spoken less.	Link Builder Notice when two ideas connect or differ, and ask the group to explain the link.	Goal Guide Read the topic question again when the group drifts, and point out what decision is still needed.	Team Checker Listen for useful, fair talk, and name one way the group could work better together.

MOVE CARDS · deal 4 to each player

MOVE CARD BUILD IDEA “I want to add to ____’s idea by saying ____.”	MOVE CARD BUILD IDEA “____’s idea connects to mine because ____.”	MOVE CARD INVITE VOICE “I want to hear from ____ because ____.”	MOVE CARD INVITE VOICE “____, what is your idea about ____?”
MOVE CARD CHECK TEAM “Our discussion is helping because ____.”	MOVE CARD CHECK TEAM “I notice our group is working well when ____.”	MOVE CARD SELF CHECK “I contributed by ____, and I can improve by ____.”	MOVE CARD SELF CHECK “One thing I did that helped was ____. Next time, I will ____.”

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

RUNNING THE ROUNDS

Print enough MOVE card sets so every player receives four cards. During each round, listen for students using starters naturally rather than reading them without responding to the discussion. If participation is uneven, have the Voice Scout name an unheard voice and pause dominant speakers until that person has a chance to respond.

WHAT A STRONG ROUND SOUNDS LIKE

Jordan	I contributed by suggesting a student buddy, and I can improve by asking for more ideas.
Maya	I want to add to Jordan's idea by saying the buddy could show the new student where classes meet.
Leo	I want to hear from Tia because we have not heard her idea yet.
Tia	Our discussion is helping because we are adding ideas to each other's plans.
Jordan	To work better together, we could decide which idea should happen first.

LISTEN FOR

- Students invite a partner who has not spoken.
- Students name a specific way the discussion is helping or needs a change.
- Students build on or connect a classmate's idea.
- Students name a helpful contribution and a next step for themselves.

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