

Talk It Through

Use every voice to build a shared plan.

GRADE 9 • 9.C.1.A.iii

9.C.1.A.iii "Facilitate and contribute to a range of sustained collaborative discussions with diverse partners on grade nine topics and texts. This includes: Incorporating all group members in the development of new understandings, making decisions..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

OUR GROUND RULES Read together first

1 Speak one at a time and listen for the full idea.

2 Make room for every group member before deciding.

3 Play a Move card only after you truly use its starter.

4 Improve ideas instead of shutting them down.

HOW TO PLAY Teams of 3 or 4

1. Choose one Topic card and read the task aloud.
2. Each player takes a different Role card.
3. Shuffle the Move cards, using enough copies so each player gets four cards.
4. Discuss the task and do your role job. Play a card in the middle after you use its starter.
5. Keep talking until every dealt Move card is in the middle, then complete the reflection.

AFTER THE ROUND Check what you did

☐ I invited or made room for a group member to speak.

☐ I built on or clarified an idea before moving on.

☐ I helped the group respond to a concern or solve a problem.

☐ I helped the group make a decision everyone understood.


TOPIC CARDS · pick one per round

TOPIC	TOPIC	TOPIC
Tech Teamwork Create three fair rules for using phones and laptops during group work. Explain how each rule supports learning and includes everyone.	Lunch Connection Plan one 30-minute lunch activity that helps ninth graders meet people. Include materials, steps, and a way to include students who prefer quieter activities.	Group Reset Create a four-step plan for what a group should do when one member is being left out of the work.

ROLE CARDS · one per player

ROLE	ROLE	ROLE	ROLE
Voice Scout Notice who has not spoken, and invite that person to share before the group decides.	Idea Linker Point out where group ideas agree, differ, or fit together.	Concern Catcher Name a possible problem with the plan and help the group improve it.	Decision Scribe Keep a short list of choices and state clearly what the group has decided.

MOVE CARDS · deal 4 to each player

MOVE CARD	MOVE CARD	MOVE CARD	MOVE CARD
INVITE A VOICE “I want to hear what ____ thinks about ____.”	INVITE A VOICE “We have not heard from ____ yet. What do you think about ____?”	BUILD AN IDEA “One idea we could add is ____ because ____.”	BUILD AN IDEA “Building on ____'s idea, we could ____.”
MOVE CARD	MOVE CARD	MOVE CARD	MOVE CARD
ASK FOR CLARITY “When you say ____, do you mean ____?”	LINK IDEAS TOGETHER “I see a connection between ____ and ____.”	SOLVE A CONCERN “A concern is ____, so we could ____.”	CHOOSE A PLAN “I think we should choose ____ because ____.”

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

RUNNING THE ROUNDS

Use one Topic card per round and provide enough copies of the Move cards for each student to receive four. Listen for genuine use of the starters, not quick or forced statements. If participation is uneven, pause before a decision and have the Voice Scout invite a member who has spoken less.

WHAT A STRONG ROUND SOUNDS LIKE

Maya	I want to hear what Noah thinks about a phone rule during group work.
Noah	One idea we could add is putting phones face down unless the group needs one for research because it cuts distractions.
Iris	When you say the group needs one for research, do you mean the group chooses one person to look things up?
Jalen	A concern is that someone may need to check a family message, so we could allow a quick check after telling the group.
Maya	I think we should choose the face-down rule with the family-message exception because it limits distractions but stays fair.

LISTEN FOR

- Invitations that bring in a member who has not spoken
- Ideas that extend, combine, or clarify another person's thinking
- Concerns followed by a practical revision to the plan
- A clear group decision that names the reasons for choosing it

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