

Common Ground Cards

Track what your group shares and what it sees differently.

GRADE 9 • 9.C.1.A.vi

9.C.1.A.vi "Facilitate and contribute to a range of sustained collaborative discussions with diverse partners on grade nine topics and texts. This includes: Summarizing points of agreement and disagreement."

NAME _____

DATE _____

OUR GROUND RULES Read together first

1 Share your own idea before you summarize the group.

2 Listen for ideas people share and ideas they see differently.

3 Play a Move card only when its starter fits what was actually said.

4 Let another player speak before you play another card.

HOW TO PLAY Teams of 3 or 4

1. Choose one Topic card and give each player a different Role card.
2. In a group of 3, set aside the Bridge Builder role. Keep the Recap Reporter role in every group.
3. Cut two complete copies of the 8 Move cards, combine the 16 cards, shuffle them, and deal 4 cards to each player.
4. Discuss the topic. When you genuinely use a starter on one of your cards, place that card in the middle. In a group of 3, leave the 4 extra cards face down and out of the round.
5. The round ends when every dealt card is in the middle. The Recap Reporter gives the group's final summary of agreements and disagreements.

AFTER THE ROUND Check what you did

☐ I named at least one point of agreement.

☐ I named at least one point of disagreement.

☐ I checked that my summary matched what people said.

☐ I helped create a final group summary.

✂

TOPIC CARDS · pick one per round

TOPIC	TOPIC	TOPIC
Lunch Phone Rules Should school set limits on phone use during lunch? Discuss possible rules, then prepare a summary of your agreements and disagreements.	Homework Balance What homework limit, if any, should ninth-grade classes follow on a typical night? Discuss your ideas, then prepare a summary of your agreements and disagreements.	Service Requirement Should students complete community service to graduate? Discuss what requirement, if any, would be fair, then prepare a summary of your agreements and disagreements.

ROLE CARDS · one per player

ROLE	ROLE	ROLE	ROLE
Recap Reporter At the end, state the group's main agreements and disagreements in a clear summary.	Agreement Mapper Listen for shared ideas and ask the group to confirm them.	Difference Detective Listen for different views and name the exact issue people see differently.	Bridge Builder Help the group connect related ideas and make sure each person has a chance to speak.

MOVE CARDS · deal 4 to each player

MOVE CARD SHARED IDEA “___ and ___ both said ___.”	MOVE CARD SHARED IDEA “I hear us agreeing that ___.”	MOVE CARD DIFFERENT VIEWS “___ and ___ see ___ differently because ___.”	MOVE CARD DIFFERENT VIEWS “I hear a disagreement about ___.”
MOVE CARD CHECK AGREEMENT “Is it accurate to say we agree that ___?”	MOVE CARD CHECK DIFFERENCE “Is it accurate to say we disagree about ___?”	MOVE CARD BUILD SUMMARY “Our shared point so far is ___.”	MOVE CARD ADD DIFFERENCE “One difference we still have is ___.”

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

RUNNING THE ROUNDS

Run one round per topic, requiring each player to play all 4 dealt Move cards before the Recap Reporter summarizes. In groups of 3, set aside Bridge Builder and keep Recap Reporter, Agreement Mapper, and Difference Detective. If one student speaks much more than others, pause card play until a quieter player adds an idea or confirms a summary.

WHAT A STRONG ROUND SOUNDS LIKE

Maya	I think phones should be limited at lunch so students can talk face to face.
Jordan	I agree that lunch should help students connect, but I think students should be able to use phones to contact family.
Luis	Maya and Jordan both said lunch should help students connect.
Aisha	Maya and Jordan see phone access differently because Maya wants limits and Jordan wants access for family contact.
Maya	We agree that lunch should help students connect, but we disagree about how much phone access students should have.

LISTEN FOR

- Specific shared ideas, not just “we agree.”
- Clear statements of the exact issue under disagreement.
- Checks that ask peers to confirm a summary.
- Final recaps that include both agreement and disagreement.

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