

STUDENT TALK PROTOCOL DESCRIPTIONS (CONTINUED)

Purpose: To Elicit Student Argument from Evidence or Experience - Reaching Consensus

All-Class Science Talk:

Setup: The teacher must develop an open-ended question that students can use experience or a data set to answer.

1. The teacher poses a question for students to answer.
2. If necessary, give students time to think or write.
3. The teacher asks students to turn their bodies toward the center of the room for a Science Talk.
4. The teacher explains:
 - a. "in a Science Talk, knowledge is held by your fellow scientists, and you should talk to each other. The goal of a Science Talk is to help each other understand a phenomenon. You can help your fellow scientists understand by: sharing results, using data, being as clear as possible, and listen carefully to deeply understand what your fellow scientists are saying.
5. Teacher facilitates the student discussion by using [Michaels and O'Connor's Talk Science Primer](#) and avoiding telling answers or asking closed-ended questions.
6. Optional: At the end of the Science Talk, students can record their thinking.

Optional: At the end of the science talk, students can record their thinking, document the evolution of their thinking, or talk about what made them change their mind at any point.

Expert Tip: Try to take an open-minded stance during all discourse activities, but especially whole-class ones. Research shows that teachers often subtly privilege students who "talk like scientists" by using mainstream or standard English. This should be a space for all students to be free to share, not just ideas of students you agree with.