

Talk Tactics to encourage talk at Home

Use the sentence stems that accompany these talk tactics to encourage discussion and develop your child's oracy skills.

Instigate

Present an idea or open up a new line of inquiry



- “ I think ____
- “ Let's begin with ____
- “ I have a great idea, I'll go first ____

Invite: X would you like to go first?

Build

Develop, add to or elaborate on an idea



- “ X's idea made me think ____
- “ I'd like to know more about ____
- “ Yes, and ____

Invite: Can anyone add to that?

Clarify

Ask questions to make things clearer and check your understanding



- “ Do you mean that ____?
- “ I think you are saying ____
- “ So, what you're saying is ____

Invite: Do you have any questions about X?

Challenge

Disagree or present an alternative argument



- “ I don't think ____
- “ You said ____ but what about ____?
- “ I disagree with ____

Invite: Does anyone disagree with X?

Stretch

Add more detail; use more complex language or introduce new ideas



- “ Yes, it's ____, you could even say it's ____
- “ That's right, it's ____ because ____
- “ Yes, it's a ____

Invite: Can you tell me more about...?

Speculate

Encourage creative or abstract thinking and consideration of alternative viewpoints



- “ I wonder what would happen if ____?
- “ Perhaps ____
- “ Do you think ____?

Invite: What do you wonder about X?

Suggest

Support thinking and problem solving by guiding next steps



- “ What if we tried ____ next?
- “ Have you thought about ____
- “ Let's give ____ a try

Invite: What do you think we should try?

Encourage

Offer praise to encourage and motivate



- “ You did such a good job of ____, now let's think about ____
- “ You really made me ____
- “ Your use of ____ was ____

Invite: What do you like about what X did/ said?