Thank you FOR YOUR INTEREST IN CORWIN

Please enjoy this complimentary excerpt from The K-3 Guide to Academic Conversations.

LEARN MORE about this title!
• Are there enough turns for a meaningful conversation?
• Is each turn long enough? Should they be longer with more sentences?
• Do both students talk more or less an equal amount? Does one student dominate?

• Do students listen well enough to appropriately build on previous turns?
• Do students use posing, clarifying, and supporting ideas to build up one or more ideas?

• Do students build up both (or more) ideas as much as possible?
• Do students then evaluate the overall evidence weight of each side to make a logical decision?
• Do they clearly describe why they chose a side?

• Do students show effective listening by how they respond in each turn and nonverbally?
• Do students work hard to say things as clearly as possible each turn?
• Do they clearly describe why they chose a side?
• Do they use thinking skills needed to have a successful conversation?
• Do they use effective nonverbal skills for listening, emphasizing, questioning, and so on?
• Do they value (and not disrespect) one another’s ideas?

Quantity
☐ # of turns
☐ Length of turns
☐ Equity of voice

Quality
☐ Use conversation skills to co-construct and argue ideas
☐ Turns build on previous turns
☐ Students pose or choose a relevant initial idea(s) that is focused on learning objective(s)
☐ Students clarify idea(s) (by paraphrasing, defining, elaborating, asking questions, negotiating, etc.)
☐ Students support ideas (using evidence, examples, explanations)
☐ If there are two or more competing ideas (argue/decide): students build up both ideas and
☐ (a) evaluate the strength/weight of the evidence of each idea
☐ (b) compare the strengths/weights and choose the “strongest/heaviest” idea
☐ (c) explain and/or negotiate final decisions and conclusions

☐ Effective listening
☐ Clear speaking (plus use of language asked for in prompt)
☐ Academic thinking (including use of thinking asked for in prompt)
☐ Academic content (including talk about content asked for in prompt)
☐ Nonverbal communication (posture, nods, eye contact)
☐ Value one another’s ideas, thinking, and feelings