Talk Moves
Incorporating Discussion in Math Class

#LIFEREADY
HENRICO SUMMER CONFERENCE
Learning Targets

- Understand why talk in math class is critical and how it aligns with the VDOE Process Goals and HLP.
- Utilize Talk Moves and Tools to promote respectful discourse and equitable participation in your classroom.
Why talk in math class?

Discuss this at your table
Five Major Reasons that Talk is Critical

● Read over pages xv-xvii

● Think about your own students and their learning strengths and difficulties. Which of the five reasons for using classroom talk and discussion seem most relevant to your current teaching?
Five Major Reasons that Talk is Critical

1. Talk can reveal understanding and misunderstanding.
2. Talk supports robust learning by boosting memory.
3. Talk supports deeper reasoning.
4. Talk supports language development.
5. Talk supports development of social skills.
The Typical Classroom

Researchers have found that few American classrooms display consistent or even occasional use of student talk. Instead, most classroom talk consists of the teacher lecturing, asking students to recite, or posing simple questions with known answers.
Turn and Talk

What similarities do you see between the VDOE Process Goals and the HLP? Where does discourse fit in?
Our goal is not to increase the amount of talk in our classrooms, but to increase the amount of high-quality talk in our classrooms - the mathematically productive talk.
A First Encounter with Productive Math Discourse

Is Forty a Factor of Forty? from Facilitator’s Guide

What did you see happening here?
Did anything surprise you, interest you, or make an impression on you?
Four Steps to Productive Talk

1. Helping Individual Students Clarify and Share Their Own Thoughts
2. Helping Students Orient to the Thinking of Others
3. Helping Students Deepen Their Own Reasoning
4. Helping Students Engage with the Reasoning of Others
Talk Moves or Tools

Talk moves refer to strategic ways of asking questions and eliciting participation.

Tools are more general ways to help increase the productivity of the talk in class such as wait time or stop and jot.
Video examples for each productive talk move
Two Major Goals of Setting Up Classroom Talk Norms

● Respectful Discourse
● Equitable Participation
Learning Targets

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● Utilize Talk Moves and Tools to promote respectful discourse and equitable participation in your classroom.
Reflection/Homework!

● Make an effort to incorporate talk moves in your instruction
● Record (video or audio) yourself teaching a math lesson (whole group or small group)
● Watch the video, noting the amount of time you talk and the amount of time students talk
Thanks for attending!

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