I’m explaining my ideas. I can use these phrases:

I think _____ because...

Evidence that supports my argument is...

I think this is supporting evidence because...

I think this relates to the scientific idea of...

Give an analogy or metaphor that relates to your idea.

I’m responding to the other person’s ideas. I can use these phrases to build on their ideas:

Could you explain a bit more about _____? What do you mean when you say _____?

I heard you say ______. That makes me think...

One difference between my idea and yours is...

I heard you say ______. I agree or disagree because...

I heard you say ______. What evidence is that based on?

You described ______. Do you have any ideas why that happens?

**Flip over to switch roles**
I’m responding to the other person’s ideas. I can use these phrases to build on their ideas:

Could you explain a bit more about ______?  
What do you mean when you say ______?

I heard you say ______. That makes me think...

One difference between my idea and yours is...

I heard you say ______. I agree or disagree because...

I heard you say ______. What evidence is that based on?

You described ______. Do you have any ideas why that happens?

I’m explaining my ideas. I can use these phrases:

I think ______ because...

Evidence that supports my argument is...

I think this is supporting evidence because...

I think this relates to the scientific idea of...

Give an analogy or metaphor that relates to your idea.

Flip over to switch roles

STEM Teaching Tools Table Tents draw ideas from Kelly Jones (Renton School District), the TERC Talk Science Primer, Common Core Standards in diverse classrooms, and STEM Teaching Tool #35.