

Conversation Turns

1

Start

Say hi, then say or ask one thing.

2

Listen

What is their topic? Catch one detail.

3

Add on

Ask about it, connect it to you, or make a comment.

4

Pass it back

End your turn with a question, so they get a turn.

THREE WAYS TO ADD ON

Ask

a question about their
topic

Connect

how it links to me

Comment

a short reaction

Add-On Cards

Cut apart. Pick one to add on.

Ask

What happened next?

Ask

Who was there?

Ask

What was the best part?

Ask

How did you...?

Connect

Me too! I...

Connect

That reminds me of...

Connect

I've never..., but I...

Connect

My favorite is...

Comment

That sounds fun!

Comment

Oh no!

Comment

Wow, really?

Comment

That's cool.

Follow-Up Questions

A friend says... what could you ask?

They said	I could ask
I went to the beach this weekend.	
My dog learned a new trick.	
I'm reading a really good book.	
We had a substitute in math.	
I beat a hard level in my game.	
My cousin is coming to visit.	

Adult Page: Conversation Turns

1

Practice on their favorite topic

Start with a topic the student loves, so the moves are the only new part.

2

Pass an object

A ball or a bean bag shows whose turn it is; pass it with each question.

3

Count the turns

Try for 3 back-and-forth turns, then 5. Celebrate the try, not the number.

4

Practice where it's used

Lunch, a game or a partner task, with a peer who likes the same thing.

People talk in different ways: long turns about a favorite subject, sharing a related story, or quiet company are real ways of connecting. Teach these moves as a tool the student can use when they want it. Never require eye contact.

Conversation Starters and Staying on Topic

Name _____ Date _____

Use one of these to start. Use another to keep going on the same topic.

☐

Ask a question

"What did you do ____?" "What is your favorite ____?"

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Say something about the topic

"I like ____ because ____."

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Ask a follow-up question

"Why?" "Then what happened?" "Tell me more."

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Check: is it still about the topic?

If not, say: "Back to ____."

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Take a turn, then give a turn

Listen, then ask or share.