

HANDOUT

Keep the Discussion Alive!

Directions: Sometimes we run out of things to talk about during a discussion. Silence is okay because it allows group members to collect their thoughts! But if you feel like you need help keeping the discussion alive, try using some of these sentence starters to get going and then build on each other's ideas.

Ask a Question

Why did . . .
Why did they choose to . . .
What happened when . . .
Wait! Who is . . .
How does _____ connect to . . .
Do you think that . . .
I wonder why the author . . .

Clarify Something

This makes sense now because . . .
Are you sure? I think this means . . .
I agree with you that this suggests . . .
I used to think . . . but now I think . . .
I'm not sure that . . .
I would like to talk about . . .
I have a different idea . .

Make a Prediction

I think the next chapter will be about . .
I wonder if . . .
Based on what is happening, I bet ____ will happen next because . .
I think that . . .

Make a Comment

The most valuable idea is . . .
My favorite part/character so far is . . .
This is confusing because . . .
I don't like this part because . . .
This is similar to/different from . . .
I'm surprised that . . .

Make a Connection

This part/character reminds me of . . .
I see what the book is saying, but from my experience, it's more like . . .
This reminds me of . . .
I can relate to this because . . .
This part connects to . . .