

This partner or small group activity is designed to build oral language and communication skills.

**Creating the Box:**

1. Find an empty tissue box, or other of similar size.
2. Print (or create) cards with pictures and words that that will be familiar to the students. Use conversation starters for older students. - Pre-K printable cards with pictures and words are available at:

<http://www.mrprintables.com/emotion-flashcards.html>

1. Laminate the cards and put them in the box.

 **Discussion Sequence:**

1. One student reaches into the box, draws out a card, and shows it to the other students. This student begins the conversation with 1-2 sentences (2-3 sentences for older students) related to the picture/phrase on the card.
2. Each additional student is given a chance to add 1-2 sentences (2-3 sentences for older students) to the conversation.
3. Once all students have taken part in the conversation, the initial student concludes the conversation with additional information, or a summary of the discussion.
4. On a blank piece of paper, each student creates an picture and/or word description of what was discussed.
5. The card is placed beside the box and another student draws a card. This process continues as time allows.

Template option for outside of box:





Conversation Starters for Kids

Students may try to respond to these questions with one sentence or just a few words.

It is important to remind them that their conversations should include 2-3 sentences from each member. They will need to think of a connected fact to extend their answer.

Personal

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| How old are you? | Do you have any brothers or sisters? | Who is your best friend? |
| When is your birthday? | Do you have any pets? | Do you play a musical instrument? |
| What is your favorite color? |  |  |

School

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| What is your favorite subject at school? Why? | What do you do during recess? | What did you learn so far today? |
| What is your least favorite subject at school? Why? | Do you ride the bus to school? | Who was your teacher last year? |
| Which grade has been your favorite so far? |  |  |

Food

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| What did you eat  for lunch?  (Today or yesterday) | What is your favorite ice cream flavor? | What is your  favorite fruit? |
| What is your  favorite food? | What is your  favorite candy? | What is your favorite pizza topping? |
|  |  |  |

Entertainment

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| What is your  favorite book? | Do you play  any sports? | What is your  favorite TV show? |
| What is your  favorite toy? | What is your  favorite movie? | What kind of music do you like to listen to? |
| Do you like to play video games? |  |  |

Misc

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| What do you do  on the weekends? | If you had  three wishes,  what would they be? | If you could have  a super power,  what would it be?  Why? |
| What do you want  to be when you  grow up? | What do you do  after school? | Describe your  perfect day. |
| What is the one thing you can't live without? | If you could go on vacation anywhere  in the world, where would you go? | If you won $100, what would you do with it? |
|  |  |  |