

# Accountable Talk<sup>®</sup> Features and Indicators

## Accountability to the Learning Community

- Active participation in classroom talk
- Listen attentively
- Elaborate and build on each other's ideas
- Work to clarify or expand a proposition

## Accountability to Knowledge

- Specific and accurate knowledge
- Appropriate evidence for claims and arguments
- Commitment to getting it right

## Accountability to Rigorous Thinking

- Synthesize several sources of information
- Construct explanations and test understanding of concepts
- Formulate conjectures and hypotheses
- Employ generally accepted standards of reasoning
- Challenge the quality of evidence and reasoning

## Accountable Talk<sup>®</sup> Moves

Talk Move	Function	Example
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### To Ensure Purposeful, Coherent, and Productive Group Discussion

Marking	Direct attention to the value and importance of a student's contribution.	That's an important point.
Challenging	Redirect a question back to the students or use students' contributions as a source for further challenge or query.	Let me challenge you: Is that always true?
Revoicing	Align a student's explanation with content or connect two or more contributions with the goal of advancing the discussion of the content.	S: 4 + 4 + 4. You said three groups of four.
Recapping	Make public in a concise, coherent form, the group's achievement at creating a shared understanding of the phenomenon under discussion.	Let me put these ideas all together. What have we discovered?

## Accountable Talk<sup>®</sup> Moves

Talk Move	Function	Example
<b>To Ensure Purposeful, Coherent, and Productive Group Discussion</b>		
Marking	Direct <b>attention</b> to the value and importance of a student's contribution.	It is important to say describe to compare the size of the pieces and then to look at how many pieces of that size.
Challenging	Redirect a question back to the students or use students' contributions as a source for further challenge or query.	Let me challenge you: Is that always true?
Revoicing	Align a student's explanation with content or connect two or more contributions with the goal of advancing the discussion of the content.	You said 3, yes there are three columns and each column is 1/3 of the whole
Recapping	Make public in a concise, coherent form, the group's achievement at creating a shared understanding of the phenomenon under discussion.	Let me put these ideas all together. What have we discovered?
<b>To Support Accountability to Community</b>		
Keeping the Channels Open	Ensure that students can hear each other, and remind them that they must hear what others have said.	Say that again and louder. Can someone repeat what was just said?
Keeping Everyone Together	Ensure that everyone not only heard, but also understood, what a speaker said.	Can someone add on to what was said? Did everyone hear that?
Linking Contributions	Make explicit the relationship between a new contribution and what has gone before.	Does anyone have a similar idea? Do you agree or disagree with what was said? Your idea sounds similar to his idea.
Verifying and Clarifying	Revoice a student's contribution, thereby helping both speakers and listeners to engage more profitably in the conversation.	So are you saying..? Can you say more? Who understood what was said?
<b>To Support Accountability to Knowledge</b>		
Pressing for Accuracy	Hold students accountable for the accuracy, credibility, and clarity of their contributions.	Why does that happen? Someone give me the term for that.
Building on Prior Knowledge	Tie a current contribution back to knowledge accumulated by the class at a previous time.	What have we learned in the past that links with this?
<b>To Support Accountability to Rigorous Thinking</b>		
Pressing for Reasoning	Elicit evidence to establish what contribution a student's utterance is intended to make within the group's larger enterprise.	Say why this works. What does this mean? Who can make a claim and then tell us what their claim means?
Expanding Reasoning	Open up extra time and space in the conversation for student reasoning.	Does the idea work if I change the context? Use bigger numbers?