Constructive Conversation Skills Poster

**Goal:**
Students independently build up ideas (knowledge, agreement, solution) using these skills.

**Prompt starters:**
- What is your claim?
- What do we need to do?
- What are other claims?
- What do you think about…?
- Why…How…I wonder…

**Response starters:**
- One claim could be …
- My hypothesis is…
- I noticed the pattern of…
- I think it was caused by…

**Prompt starters:**
- What is your claim?
- What do we need to do?
- What are other claims?
- What do you think about…?
- Why…How…I wonder…

**Response starters:**
- One claim could be …
- My hypothesis is…
- I noticed the pattern of…
- I think it was caused by…

**Prompt starters:**
- Why do you disagree?
- How might we take the best from both ideas?
- How can we decide which is the more ___ claim?
- How does evidence for this claim compare to the other?
- How are the two reasons similar and different?
- Which has the strongest evidence?
- Can you think of a counter-example?

**Response starters:**
- I disagree because…
- On the other hand, …
- A counter-claim would be…
- Even though it seems that …,
- That is a valid point, but…
- I think the data showing that… outweighs the data showing …
- A counter-example is…

**Prompt starters:**
- Why do you disagree?
- How might we take the best from both ideas?
- How can we decide which is the more ___ claim?
- How does evidence for this claim compare to the other?
- How are the two reasons similar and different?
- Which has the strongest evidence?
- Can you think of a counter-example?

**Response starters:**
- I disagree because…
- On the other hand, …
- A counter-claim would be…
- Even though it seems that …,
- That is a valid point, but…
- I think the data showing that… outweighs the data showing …
- A counter-example is…

**Prompt starters:**
- What do you mean by...?
- How does the evidence support that claim?
- What is a real world example?
- Can we replicate the data?
- What are other examples that support that idea?
- What is the strongest support for…?

**Response starters:**
- For example, The data we gathered supports the claim because…
- The law of… states that…
- A common example of this in daily life is…
- Strong supporting evidence is

**Prompt starters:**
- What is your claim?
- What do we need to do?
- What are other claims?
- What do you think about…?
- Why…How…I wonder…

**Response starters:**
- One claim could be …
- My hypothesis is…
- I noticed the pattern of…
- I think it was caused by…

© Zwiers & Soto (2016)
Academic language mastery:
Conversational discourse in context.
Corwin Press | jeffzwiers.org