

## ACCOUNTABLE TALK STEMS

Conferences are a powerful instructional tool. They provide teachers with more time for assessment and differentiation, the opportunity to deepen relationships with students, and an insight into their own work from the perspective of the student. In addition to receiving immediate feedback, students benefit by having guided practice for metacognition and reflection. Conferences also allow students to share their thoughts and feelings about their work and their learning.

When you want to ...	it sounds like:
Ask questions or clarify confusion.	Can you tell me more? Would you say that again? Can you give me another example so I can understand? This is confusing to me because _____. I don't understand _____, but I do understand _____ because _____.
Clarify ideas.	Now I understand _____ because _____. I thought _____ but now I think _____ because _____. No, I think it means _____. I agree with _____ because _____. What I hear you saying is _____.
Make predictions.	I think that _____ will happen because _____. I don't think _____ will happen because _____.
Give reasons.	This reminds me of _____ because _____. I believe this is true because _____. This is a good idea because _____. Read a passage from the book that illustrates your idea. Bring another information source to support your idea.
Ask for evidence.	I'm not sure that's right. Can you tell me why you think it is true? Can you show me a place in the book that illustrates that idea?
Make connections	This reminds me of _____. This is like when _____. This is like _____ but different because _____.
Explore possibilities.	I wonder if _____. Since this happened, then what if _____.
Add to ideas.	I agree with _____ because _____. I disagree with _____ because _____. _____'s idea reminds me of _____.