### Constructive Conversation Secondary Placemat – Designated ELD

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

<table>
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<th>Features of Conversations with Hand Motions</th>
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| **Create** (Put hands over head, open and close them, as if an idea is coming out of your head) | **A**  
  - What do you notice?  
  - What is your idea?  
  - What are other points of view?  
  - I wonder...?  
  - How can we combine these ideas? | **B**  
  - I notice...  
  - Another idea is ...  
  - This reminds me of...  
  - I connect to ____ because... |
| **Clarify** (Place hands over eyes as if focusing binoculars) | **A**  
  - Can you elaborate on...?  
  - Can you clarify ____?  
  - What do you mean by ____?  
  - Say more about ____?  
  - Why, How, What, When... | **B**  
  - I think it means ...  
  - In other words...  
  - More specifically, it is... because...  
  - In other words, you are saying that... |
| **Fortify** (Place your hand palm down as if putting an idea on the table, and use the fingertips of the other hand to support the palm) | **A**  
  - Can you give an example from the text?  
  - Where in the text does it say that?  
  - Are there any cases in real life?  
  - How does it support the idea? | **B**  
  - For example,  
  - In the text it said...  
  - Remember from the text we read  
  - An example from my life is...  
  - Strong supporting evidence is... |
| **Negotiate** (Put your hands out by your shoulders, palm up. Move them up and down like a scale) | **A**  
  - How are the 2 ideas similar/ different?  
  - Which has the strongest evidence?  
  - How can we decide which has the more ____ idea?  
  - How is that evidence stronger than this evidence? | **B**  
  - ____ is strong evidence because...  
  - I think we can use the criteria of ... because...  
  - That is a valid point, but...  
  - I think the negative of... outweighs the positives of... |

Modified from: Zwiers, O’Hara, & Pritchard (2014)

**Note:** For additional language prompts, please refer to the Conversation Skills Poster.