**Constructive Conversation Secondary Placemat – Integrated ELD/ELA**

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

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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**  
- Why do you think the author wrote this?  
- What is the theme of this text?  
- What is the poetic device in used in the ___ stanza?  
- What is your idea? | **B**  
- I think the author wrote this because...  
- I believe the theme is ...  
- I believe the poetic device is ...  
- My idea is... |
| **Clarify** *(Place hands over eyes as if focusing binoculars)* | **A**  
- Can you elaborate?  
- Can you clarify?  
- What do you mean by ____?  
- Did what I say make sense? | **B**  
- I think it means that ...  
- In other words...  
- More specifically, it is ... because...  
- It sounds like you think 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 says...  
- Remember from the text we read  
- An example from my life is...  
- Strong supporting evidence is... |
| **Negotiate** *(Put your hands out by your shoulders, palms up. Move them up and down like a scale)* | **A**  
- 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... |

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

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