

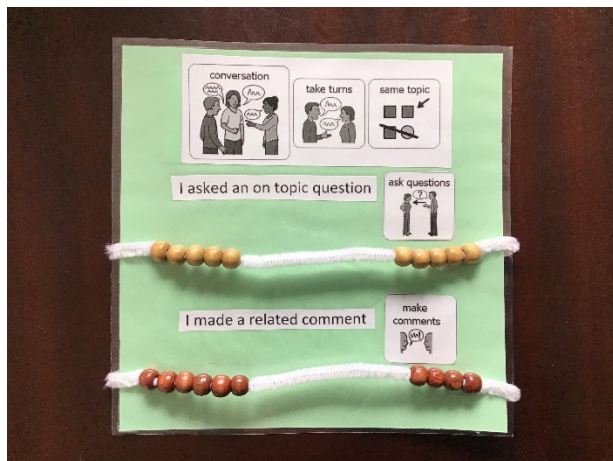
## Let's practice having a conversation

Having a conversation with a partner or partners involves using words to verbally express your message and interest. Having a conversation also involves using body language, such as making eye contact, smiling, and nodding your head, to non-verbally express your interest in the conversation and your message. There are many parts of having a conversation and these usually include:

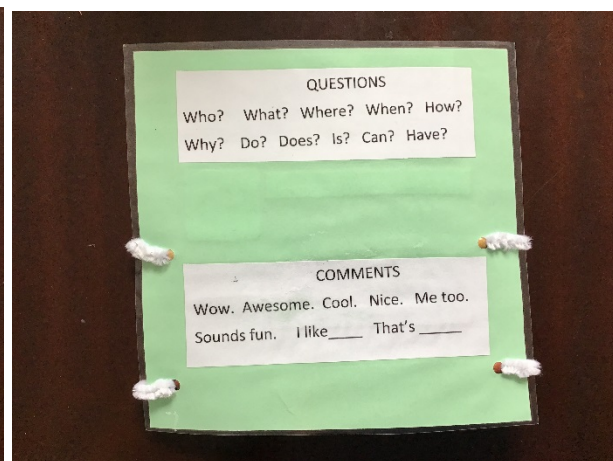
- a beginning – a conversation often starts with a greeting and one person initiates the topic by asking a question or making a comment (e.g., “Hi John! That’s a cool skateboard you have!”)
- a middle – participants take turns to continue and maintain the conversation by asking questions and making comments related to the topic of conversation
- an end – the conversation usually ends with a short explanation (e.g., “I’m going to go to soccer now”) and farewell (e.g., “bye” or “see you later”)

The middle part of a conversation is often difficult for some students. Taking turns in the conversation by making on topic comments and asking on topic questions can be challenging. Using a visual, like the one below, to help a student track when they have asked a question or made a comment can help the student find a balance in having a conversation. The student or adult can move a bead to keep track of when the student asked questions and/or made comments.

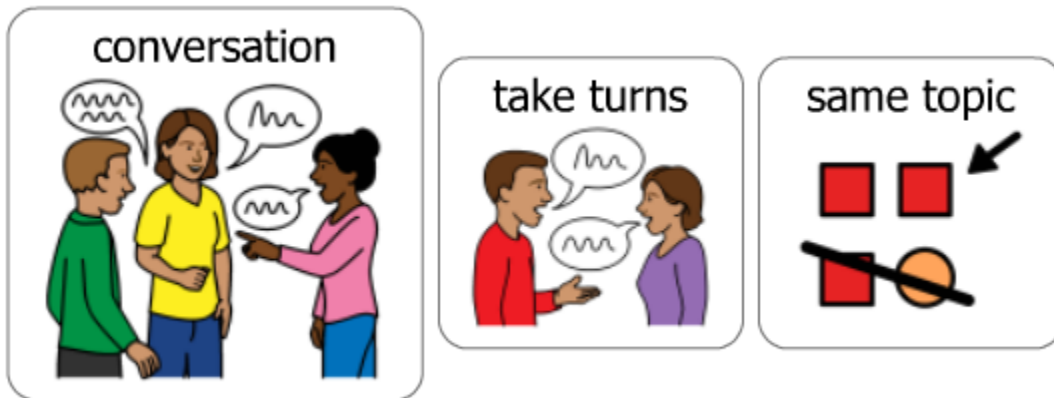
FRONT



BACK



Print out this page to make your own conversation visual. There are optional question and comment cues to glue on the back. Use a hole punch and attach pipe cleaners or string and beads.



I asked an on-topic question



I made a related comment



## QUESTIONS

Who? What? Where? When? How?

Why? Do? Does? Is? Can? Have?

## COMMENTS

Wow. Awesome. Cool. Nice. Me too.

Sounds fun. I like \_\_\_\_\_. That's \_\_\_\_\_.