



Name _____

Date _____

CONVERSATION STARTERS

Story Topic(s):

Directions: As you listen to each story, notice what you're thinking and wondering about. Jot down your reactions below.

I'M WONDERING...

Share a question or idea about a story.

I FEEL...

Share how a story made you feel and why.

I'D LIKE TO KNOW WHAT MY CLASSMATES THINK ABOUT...

Share what you'd like to hear your classmates' reactions to

TO ME, THE MOST INTERESTING STORY WAS...

Share which news story interested you the most and why.



TEACHER'S GUIDE: CONVERSATION STARTER

Common Core Standards:

- i. Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively
- ii. Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.
- iii. Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

Teaching Suggestions:

i. Scaffolding options:

1. Pause the podcast after each story to allow students to jot down their thoughts.
2. After listening to the podcast, provide your own examples for each prompt.
3. After listening to the podcast, complete a sample chart as a class by asking students to share their responses to each prompt. Post the chart for students to reference when they complete this activity in the future.
4. Allow students to choose 1-2 prompts to complete. Option: After the podcast is complete, have students find a partner who responded to a different prompt, then write down that person's response. Continue until all prompts are complete.
5. Have students work in groups, with each student completing one prompt.

ii. Enrichment:

1. After students write their responses, have a whole group, small group, or partner discussion.
 - a. Ask students to notice how their reactions were similar and different to other students.
 - b. Encourage students to use conversational prompts, like "What did you think about...?"
2. Have students choose one prompt to reflect on more deeply. Ask students to write a summary of the news story and explain their reaction to it.
3. Give the students the opportunity to research one story more deeply. Have them report on their findings by comparing and contrasting what they found in their research with what they heard in the podcast.