

## Engaging Children in Meaningful Conversation

## **Self-Assessment**

Name:	Date:
Before the training: Place a ✓ in the box that b	pest represents your current comfort level.

1 = Very uncomfortable 2 = Uncomfortable 3 = Neutral 4 = Comfortable 5 = Very comfortable

**After the training**: Place a ✓ in the box that best represents your new comfort level.

	Before				After					
	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
General										
I am comfortable with my ability to										
Create a kid-friendly environment that encourages a "flood of language" between and among children and adults.										
Be "tuned in" to children's everyday conversations.										
Build In Opportunities to Talk										
I am comfortable with my ability to										
Create interesting activities and environments for talk (e.g. circle time, block play, centers, read alouds, outdoor play, show and tell, art centers, dramatic play).										
Create a space in which children are able to express themselves freely and politely.										
View almost every activity as an opportunity for conversation.										
Model Conversation										
I am comfortable with my ability to										
Model how to ask and answer questions, problem-solve, negotiate, and express ideas clearly.										
Ask open-ended questions that encourage critical thinking and challenge children to "go deeper."										
Help children make connections between their lives and the books they read.										
Use Complex Language and Vocabulary										
I am comfortable with my ability to										
Introduce and use interesting and sophisticated vocabulary that expands and stretches children's vocabulary.										
Provide "child-friendly" definitions and elicit children's definitions.										
Use academic language frequently: higher, longer, predict, add, alphabet, etc.										



