Science Talks

Science Talks are a simple but crucial way to reflect with your students, and can be developed in different ways for any learning situation.

- Conversation helps make the thinking processes of inquiry science clear to learners.
- Sharing ideas encourages scientific activity between classmates.
- Children’s experience and ideas are more easily understood and recorded when they use words.
- Conversations build language capacity and promote early literacy goals.

Types of Science Talks

- Talks with small groups
  - These can take place at a center or in front of the whole group.
  - They can be unplanned, when the teacher sees an opportunity to help students think and talk through what they are discovering.
  - Other students can informally observe

- Talks with the whole group (the “Science Talk”)
  - Especially useful for helping children learn from each other while focusing on the science.
  - A time to validate children’s ideas and encourage other children that may be more hesitant.

- Talks featuring materials or documents
  - Helps make discussion concrete and easier for students to make connections.
  - This is a great time to introduce or create charts, graphs, a book on the subject of exploration, video, sharing students drawings or journals, etc.