

Talk Story: To have a casual conversation, catch up, or share stories.
Cultural vibe: Friendly, informal, relational.
“We were just talkin’ story.”

Belonging: Helping Students Feel Seen, Safe, and Valued



- What strategies do you use to ensure every student feels like they belong here?
- Can you describe a moment this week when a student may have felt disconnected? How did you respond?
- How do your classroom routines reflect inclusion and community?
- What opportunities do students have to share their voices, cultures, and identities in your classroom?
- Are there any students who aren't engaging? What might be preventing them from feeling like part of the community?
- What does it look like or sound like when students feel safe enough to take academic risks?
- How do you handle conflicts or exclusionary behaviors in a way that restores relationships and reinforces belonging?

Heroes: Building Trust and Modeling Possibility



- Which adults do your students turn to when they need support?
- How do you model the behaviors and mindsets you hope your students develop?
- In what ways do students see you as a consistent and supportive presence?
- How do you share your personal story, values, or challenges to inspire students?
- Have you considered inviting in role models, community leaders, or older students to expand students' sense of what's possible?
- Are there mentorship opportunities—formal or informal—in your classroom or school?
- When students face setbacks, how do you help them see resilience in themselves or others?

Sense of Accomplishment: Encouraging Confidence and Celebrating Growth



- How do your students know when they've made progress?
- What systems do you have in place to help students track or reflect on their own growth?
- How do you balance high expectations with support to help all students experience success?
- When you give feedback, how do you make sure it builds confidence in addition to correcting errors?
- What's something a student has recently accomplished that made you proud? How did you celebrate the accomplishment?
- Are students setting their own goals and reflecting on their learning in meaningful ways?

General Reflective Starters



- What does student Self-Worth look like in your classroom? How do you know when it's growing?
- Which students are thriving in your classroom culture, and who might need more support?
- If we asked your students tomorrow, 'Do you matter in this class?', what do you think they'd say?
- What small shift could you make this week to increase students' sense of connection, support, or achievement?
- How might we measure or track growth in student Self-Worth over time?