

Conversation Starters

How to Use The Conversation Starters

Moving Forward is a child-friendly and developmentally appropriate book that offers children an opportunity to understand the process of relocation and emotionally prepare for the changes ahead. Reading Moving Forward with your child or student can help them make deeper connections between the characters' experiences in the book and their own life. Below you will find some suggested questions and suggested "think alouds". A think aloud is a teaching technique where an adult narrates their thinking out loud in order to draw attention



to an element of the story that is worth deeper consideration. You can select a few of the suggested prompts below that best fit your needs. Avoid overusing these prompts and questions so that the flow of the story is not impacted.

Page	Suggested Question	Suggested Think Aloud
	"Have you ever had a time when your tummy was in knots? How are you feeling about moving?"	
	"If you look at the boy's body language and the girl's body language what feelings do you think they might be experiencing?"	"It seems like the two characters are having different reactions to the news that they are moving."
	"Who is your best friend? What do you like to do together?"	

		"In some places in the world it is common for families to move, but in other places it is normal that people don't change schools or move homes."
	"When the boxes come and his house gets all packed up the boy feels like things are getting weird. How do you think you will feel when your house gets packed up? How do you think you will feel when you see all your things again in your new house?"	
	"At school, what helps you feel like you belong? What do you think it means to be a 'leaver'?"	"It's really interesting that life goes from feeling normal, and then suddenly things change for the character. She starts to feel like she doesn't totally belong in a place that she used to feel comfortable."
V III	"When you spend time with the special people in your life, what kinds of activities do you like to do with them?"	
With the second	"What do the words 'healthy goodbye' mean to you? Do you have any thoughts about how you can have a healthy goodbye?"	"It seems that the more effort the girl character puts into saying goodbye to special people, the better she feels about moving"
		"I noticed that the family thinks about some special activities, special food and local events that they want to do before they leave. I wonder if doing these things helps them feel ready to go?"
Welcome	"How do you feel, or think you will feel, when you go to a new school?"	