

## PURPOSE

The Chalk Talk strategy is an unfacilitated, whole-group, silent discussion about a topic or question. It allows for all learners to participate and connect their thinking with one another.

## STEPS

1. Create a space in which the Chalk Talk can take place. This could be on a wall of a classroom or a virtual space such as a Jamboard or Padlet. If using a physical space, make sure students have access to bold markers.
2. Create a prompt in the middle of the space. Some examples: “How do you learn best?” “What do you know about the United States Constitution?” “Describe a hero.”
3. Remind students to “share the air”. That is, after they have had an opportunity to contribute, wait until others have shared before adding to the discussion.
4. Open the chalk talk. Students should contribute when they feel comfortable. They may choose to write a new idea, connect to an existing thought, or simply emphasize a thought that has already been shared.
5. As the conversation progresses, you may redirect students or remind them that the goal is to have a whole group discussion - make sure they’re building upon one another’s thinking.
6. Close the chalk talk after sufficient time has passed.
7. Ask students to review the entire recorded conversation and be ready to share verbal takeaways from the process.
8. OPTIONAL Facilitate a 5 minute debrief of the Chalk Talk