

Teacher Talk Tactics for early language development



Instigate

Present an idea
or open up a new
line of enquiry



“ I think ____

“ I believe ____

Invite: X would you
like to go first?

Build

Develop, add to
or elaborate on
an idea



“ Yes, and ____

“ Building onto ____

“ Building on X's idea ____

Invite: Would anyone
like to add to that?

Clarify

Ask questions to
make things clearer
and check your
understanding



“ Can you tell me more about?

Invite: Do you have
any questions about
X?

Challenge

Disagree or present
an alternative
argument



“ I disagree with ____
because ____

“ I disagree because ____

“ I don't think that ____

Invite: Does anyone
disagree with X?

Instigate



“ I think _____

“ I believe _____

Challenge



“ I disagree because ____

“I don’t think ____

**“ I disagree with _____
because ____**

Build



“Yes and ____

“Building onto ____

“Building on X’s idea____

Clarify



“ Yes and —

“Building onto —