

RICH TALK IN THE CLASSROOM: FIVE KEY PRINCIPLES

- 1) **Start with Reflective Listening**: “What is this child/these children trying to tell me?”
 - 2) **Teach Children to Listen to Each Other**: “Let’s check in. Is this what the other child means?”
 - 3) **See Errors as Opportunities**: “What does that answer tell me about a child’s thinking?”
 - 4) **Use Conflicts to Deepen Understanding**: “What does each child want and need?”
 - 5) **Model Compassion in Repairing Mistakes**: “Next time, I’ll try saying it this way.”
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Additional Resources:

Books

- Rebecca Rolland: *The Art of Talking with Children* (HarperOne, 2022); website and newsletter at <http://www.rebeccarolland.com>.
- Elaine Weitzman: *It Takes Two to Talk* (Hanan Center, 2017)
- Erika Christakis: *The Importance of Being Little* (Penguin, 2017)

Useful apps:

- [Abound Parenting](#)
- [GAB-On!](#)