

Study Guide— Pathway Steps 1-3 will help you to begin establishing a culture of productive talk in your classroom. Do Steps 1-3 at the beginning of the school year if you can, as this is the best time to set new expectations. Alternatively, begin Pathway Steps 1-3 about a month prior to starting the *Investigating Earth Materials* unit. During Steps 1-3 plan to meet once a week with grade level colleagues participating in the Pathway study. For Steps 4-7 plan to meet once every two weeks as you teach the unit.

This first step of the Pathway is an overview of how the Talk Science Program works. After becoming acquainted with the program, you'll jump right in and have an all-class discussion about a science concept cartoon. Expect to be surprised by your students' ideas.

INDEPENDENT WEB STUDY



Intro Video

Take a minute to view the Intro Video to find out what you can gain from the Talk Science Program.



Tour

Take the 4-minute tour of the Talk Science Pathway. This video tour will help you understand how the program works. You'll quickly get a sense of how you and your colleagues will engage in web-based study, try ideas in the classroom, and meet together to share ideas and learn from each other's experiences and insights.

IN THE CLASSROOM



Discussion

Begin your pathway study by leading a short 15-minute all-class discussion about a science concept cartoon. The purpose of this discussion is to provide you with baseline data about the current culture of talk in your classroom. It is important to **audio record** the discussion. At the end of your pathway study, you'll lead the same discussion again to see how the culture of talk in your classroom is changing.

Specific guidelines for organizing and documenting this first discussion are provided in Pathway Step 1. Remember that this is a starting point. Simply relax and lead the discussion as you normally would.



As you Begin

A central premise of the program is to incorporate what you learn as you learn it. Don't wait. Take your new insights and ideas immediately to the classroom.