

Study Guide—Do Step 8 as you complete the Grade 4 Curriculum

Congratulation! This is the last step in the Talk Science Pathway. In this step you bring your learning together and reflect on the nature of science discussions in your classroom now. Step 8 study takes place in the classroom and in independent reflection.

IN YOUR CLASSROOM

15 Minute Discussion

Again plan to lead the 15-minute concept cartoon discussion (Candle Volume) with your class. (Detailed directions are provided in Step 8, Discussion). Explain to students that they will be returning to a discussion they had earlier in the year to see if they have different ideas about the situation now and why. Again, **audio record** the discussion. Then compare the two discussions (pre/post) by selecting and transcribing short segments of each discussion (2-5 minutes total.) What do you notice about the culture of talk in your classroom? In what ways has student talk changed? In what ways has your support of their discussion changed?

INDEPENDENT STUDY

Reflect and Document

This last part of your study guides you through a comparative analysis of your first and last discussions. Give yourself at least an hour for the analysis process, and 30 minutes of quiet, undivided time to respond in writing to the following reflective questions using evidence from your analysis:

- In what ways has the culture of science discussion changed in my classroom?
- In what ways have students' scientific ideas changed?
- Am I using different strategies now to support discussion?
- What do I want to continue working on?

Detailed guidelines are included in “Reflect and Document”, Step 8