

Study Guide—To establish a culture of productive talk in your classroom, it is best to complete the Talk Science Pathway Steps 1-3 at the beginning of the school year. Alternatively, begin Pathway Steps 1-3 about a month prior to starting the *Water Transformation* 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 *Water Transformations* unit.

This first step of the Pathway is an introduction to how the Talk Science Program works, and an opportunity to jump right in and have a classroom discussion with your students.

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 really 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. (A central goal of the program is to incorporate what you learn about supporting discussion into your teaching.)

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