



CONVERSATION CAFÉ FOR YOUTH — The Roles

Welcomer: Welcomes people and makes them feel comfortable. Begins by introducing self and sharing how it feels to talk in a group. Asks others to introduce themselves around the circle and say how it feels for them to talk in a group. Asks each person to read an **Agreement** and say what it means to them. Then asks group if they can agree to these.

Explainer: Describes the **Rounds** and use of the *talking object*. Starts **Rounds 1 and 2** by going first.

Inviter: States the topic or question for the **Conversation**. Starts the conversation by offering the *talking object* to someone who would like to begin. During the conversation, the **Inviter** may ask quiet people, *"Would someone who hasn't shared as much like to add something?"*

Reminder: Gently interrupts someone not following an **Agreement** by saying, *"Excuse me, but the agreement about _____ is being broken."* To signal that an agreement is being broken, the **Reminder** does not need to hold the talking object to interrupt. If unkind words are said, say, *"Let's take a moment of silence and think about what's happening."*

Focuser: Keeps the conversation moving by saying, *"Can someone say more about that?"* The **Focuser** can also keep the conversation on the topic by saying, *"Getting back to the topic, what hasn't been said about it yet?"* A few minutes before the final round needs to begin, the **Focuser** gives the group a signal by saying, *"There are 3 minutes before the final round begins, so what else can we say about this topic?"*

Opposer: During the conversation, the **Opposer** brings in opinions not being shared or asks questions such as *"Could the opposite of that be true?"* The **Opposer** starts the **Final Round** by saying, *"In this final round with the talking object, say what was interesting or important to you about this conversation. I will begin."* After speaking, the **Opposer** passes the talking object to the right around the circle.