

EduTrend Contents

G4C · DEBATE AND DISCUSSION GAMES · PRIMARY

Pass the Talking Object

Only the holder speaks, and each new speaker repeats one thing the last person said before adding an idea

Ages 4–10	Level: Foundation	10 minutes	Circle of 4–12	Activity 01

Inside: activity at a glance · step-by-step session plan · facilitator notes · 3 pupil worksheets · assessment checklist

ACTIVITY 01 · AT A GLANCE

Pass the Talking Object

Sit in a circle and pose an open question, for example: “What makes a good friend?” Only the person holding a soft object may speak. Before passing it on, the speaker names who should go next. The new speaker must first say one thing the previous person said, then add their own idea.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the session pupils can:

- take turns to speak;
- listen to the previous speaker;
- repeat an idea accurately;
- add a new idea.

KEY WORDS

turn · listen · repeat · add · idea · circle

CURRICULUM LINKS

English: spoken language. PSHE: circle time.

1	2	3	4	5	6
WARM UP	**EXPLAIN**	**PLAY**	**LISTEN**	**TALK**	**CLOSE**
Voices and bodies ready	One game, clear rules	Invented roles	Everyone heard	What worked?	Calm and positive

Materials (whole group)

- One soft object such as a beanbag
- Question cards
- Sentence starter poster
- Worksheets 1, 2 and 3

Before the session

- Choose open questions.
- Post sentence starters.
- Model two turns.
- Agree the pass rule.

SAFETY

Allow a simple pass. Choose light questions that do not single out families or personal circumstances.

ACTIVITY 01 · SESSION PLAN

Step by step

Let the youngest speak first so older children practise waiting.

Time	What happens	Say or ask
0–2 min **Warm up**	Pass the object silently.	*"Who is holding it?"*
2–3 min **Explain**	Model repeat then add.	*"What did I repeat?"*
3–8 min **Play**	One or two questions.	*"What did they say before you?"*
8–10 min **Close**	Share a new idea heard.	*"Which idea was new to you?"*

CHALLENGE CARD (print or copy onto the board)

Repeat one thing the last speaker said, then add your own idea.

ACTIVITY 01 · FACILITATOR NOTES

The discussion game know-how in brief

A useful discussion needs a claim, a reason and a response to what someone else said.

Repeating the last point shows you listened before speaking.

Common ideas to listen for

- “Discussion means waiting to talk.” It means listening first.
- “My idea must be different.” Building on is fine.
- “Passing is failing.” Passing is allowed.

Adapting the activity

Support

Allow a simple pass; the adult models the first two turns.

Stretch

Connect your idea to someone who spoke two turns earlier.

WORKSHEET 1

I heard, I think

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Draw or write.

Ideas

I heard...	I think...

WORKSHEET 2

Sentence starters

Tick the ones you used.

Starters

Starter	Used?
I think... because...	
I agree with... and I want to add...	
I see it differently because...	

WORKSHEET 3

My idea

Draw or write.

A good friend is...

FOR THE TEACHER

Assessment checklist

Use during the session. One sheet covers up to eight pupils; copy as needed.

Pupil	Takes turns	Repeats accurately	Adds an idea

Suggested codes: W = working towards · E = expected · G = greater depth

ABOUT THIS ACTIVITY

Pass the Talking Object is a sample activity from the EduTrend Contents G4C Debate and Discussion Games programme (primary, level: foundation). Every activity in the programme follows the same format: a practical challenge, a clear session plan, facilitator notes and ready-to-print worksheets, so that teachers, club leaders and parents can run it without extra preparation.

Full 15-, 20- and 32-week programmes are available from EduStore at edutrend.org.

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