

HANDOUT 3.10B Start Easy Conversation Guide

Beginning a Conversation

- Identify your conversational goal(s)—learning from each other
- Build rapport immediately, not with a substantive issue, and find common ground
 - Since we have been building community, just greet your partner

Determine and Discuss Your Topic

- Can you tell me more about . . . ?
- Lots of How . . . ? And What . . . ? Questions
- Other Meaningful Responses
 - Probing for Higher Level Thinking:
 - What examples do you have
 - How does this idea connect to . . . ?
 - What would happen if . . . ?
 - What is another way to look at it?
 - How are _____ and _____ similar?
 - How do you know that? Can you give an example?
 - Reaction/Building on What Others Say
 - I would like to add/disagree/add/connect . . .

Ending a Conversation

- Summary/Synthesize
 - So it sounds like what you are saying is that . . .
 - What I'm getting from this conversation is that we both . . .
 - So what I've learned is that . . .
- Thank you for taking the time to . . .
- I appreciate . . .