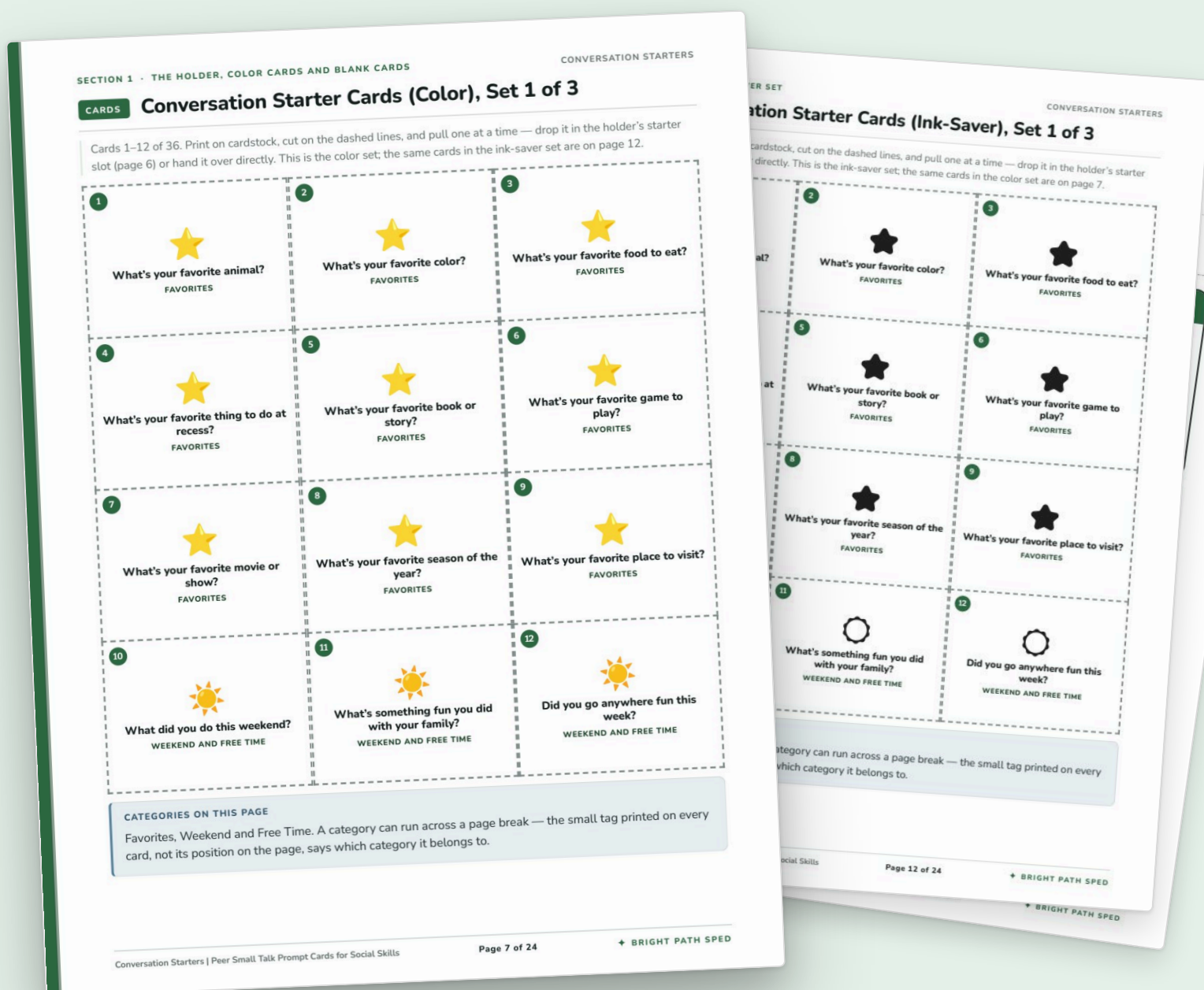


Conversation Starters



24 PAGES

36 PROMPT CARDS

4 CATEGORIES

COLOR + INK-SAVER

What Is Inside, and Where

24 pages: 36 conversation starter cards in 4 categories, a holder board with a turn tracker, a log, and a weekly roll-up.

Before you begin

PAGE 4



Start Here —
Three Steps
START HERE

4

01 The Holder, Color Cards and Blank Cards

PAGES 6–10



Conversation
Starter Holder and
Turn Tracker
BOARD

6



Conversation
Starter Cards
(Color), Set 1 of 3
CARDS

7



Conversation
Starter Cards
(Color), Set 2 of 3
CARDS

8



Conversation
Starter Cards
(Color), Set 3 of 3
CARDS

9



Blank Starter
Cards (Write Your
Own)
CARDS

10

02 The Ink-Saver Set

PAGES 12–14



Conversation
Starter Cards (Ink-
Saver), Set 1 of 3
CARDS

12



Conversation
Starter Cards (Ink-
Saver), Set 2 of 3
CARDS

13



Conversation
Starter Cards (Ink-
Saver), Set 3 of 3
CARDS

14

03 Using It, Data and Home

PAGES 16–23



How to Use the
Cards
REFERENCE

16



Conversation Log
LOG

17



Weekly Roll-Up
and Graph
TRACKER

18



Filled Example
EXAMPLE

19



Family Page
NOTES

20



Hand-Off to
Another Adult or
Room
NOTES

21



Phrase Bank for
the Adult
REFERENCE

22



Storage and
Binder Labels
REFERENCE

23

THE FOUR CATEGORIES, AND WHAT EACH PICTURE MARKS

Favorites: A star — standing for a favorite thing, not any one answer. · **Weekend and Free Time:** A sun — standing for time away from school. · **School Day:** A backpack — standing for the classroom or the school day. · **Imagination:** A thought balloon — standing for an idea. Every card in a category carries the same picture on purpose — it marks the category, never the specific question, which is always the printed text.

☆ START HERE

Start Here — Three Steps



1

Print and cut

Print the deck from the color set (pages 7–9) or the ink-saver set for a photocopy. Cut on the dashed lines; laminate a set that gets daily use.

Blank cards for a topic this deck does not cover are on page 10: write the question, print, cut.



2

Pull a card, ask, take turns

Drop one card in the holder's starter slot (page 6), ask the question, and mark a turn each time a partner answers.

The how-to page (16) models a short back-and-forth and has lines for trying a follow-up question.



3

Log it, roll it up, send it home

One row on the log (page 17) each conversation: the card used and each partner's turn count.

Total the week on the roll-up (page 18) and dot the graph. Send the family page (page 20) home when the cards are new; the hand-off page (page 21) goes with the cards to any other adult.

WHAT THIS FILE IS

A fillable PDF: 36 conversation starter cards in 4 categories, in two art sets, a holder board with a turn tracker, 12 blank cards, and type-in fields on the holder, the log, the roll-up, the family page, the hand-off page and the blank cards. It works offline with no account or subscription and prints the same on every machine.

WHAT THIS FILE IS NOT

Not an editable online slideshow or word-processor document, and not a social-skills screening tool, an assessment, or a therapy protocol. No card has a right answer, and the log and roll-up count turns taken, never what was said or which answer was best.

WHICH PAGE, WHEN

YOUR SITUATION	GO TO
A pair of students starting their first round	Holder, page 6; cards, page 7
A small group instead of a pair	How-to page 16 (the holder still works; pass the card around)
A topic none of the 36 cards covers	Blank cards, page 10; phrase bank, page 22
A photocopier, or a spare set	Ink-saver cards, page 12
The IEP meeting or a family conference	Roll-up and graph, page 18; example, page 19

IF SOMETHING DOES NOT WORK, AND WHERE THIS FILE LIVES

A field will not hold my typing. Open in Adobe Acrobat Reader or Preview, not a browser tab. **A card does not fit a student.** Use a blank card; the **Ask a Question** tab reaches me for a free fix. **Confidentiality:** a filled-in log or example is a student record — initials only leaving your hands, first name only on the family page.

BOARD

Conversation Starter Holder and Turn Tracker

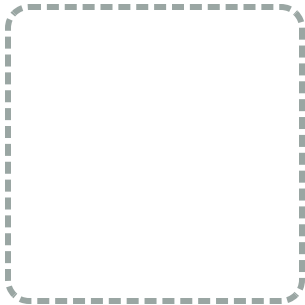
One starter card, one back-and-forth, as many turns as it takes.

PARTNER A

PARTNER B

TODAY

TODAY'S STARTER



THE CARD BEING USED RIGHT NOW

TURN TRACKER

















MARK ONE CIRCLE EACH TIME A PARTNER TAKES A
TURN ANSWERING

QUICK ROUNDS BEFORE THE FULL LOG			
ROUND	STARTER CARD USED	WHO WENT FIRST	TURNS TAKEN

HOW THE HOLDER IS USED

Pull one card from the deck (pages 7–9) and set it in the TODAY'S STARTER slot. Read the question aloud, or let a partner read it. There is no right answer — the question just opens the exchange.

WHAT THE TURN TRACKER COUNTS

One mark every time a partner answers or asks a follow-up — “What about you?” back to the other partner counts as a turn, the same as the first answer. More turns means the conversation went back and forth longer, nothing about which answer was better.

WHY TWO BOXES, NOT ONE

The STARTER box checks that a topic was offered; the TRACKER checks how far the back-and-forth went. Running both means a short exchange and a long one are never counted the same way on the log.

CARDS

Conversation Starter Cards (Color), Set 1 of 3

Cards 1–12 of 36. Print on cardstock, cut on the dashed lines, and pull one at a time — drop it in the holder's starter slot (page 6) or hand it over directly. This is the color set; the same cards in the ink-saver set are on page 12.

1  What's your favorite animal? FAVORITES	2  What's your favorite color? FAVORITES	3  What's your favorite food to eat? FAVORITES
4  What's your favorite thing to do at recess? FAVORITES	5  What's your favorite book or story? FAVORITES	6  What's your favorite game to play? FAVORITES
7  What's your favorite movie or show? FAVORITES	8  What's your favorite season of the year? FAVORITES	9  What's your favorite place to visit? FAVORITES
10  What did you do this weekend? WEEKEND AND FREE TIME	11  What's something fun you did with your family? WEEKEND AND FREE TIME	12  Did you go anywhere fun this week? WEEKEND AND FREE TIME

CATEGORIES ON THIS PAGE

Favorites, Weekend and Free Time. A category can run across a page break — the small tag printed on every card, not its position on the page, says which category it belongs to.

CARDS

Conversation Starter Cards (Color), Set 2 of 3

Cards 13–24 of 36. Print on cardstock, cut on the dashed lines, and pull one at a time — drop it in the holder's starter slot (page 6) or hand it over directly. This is the color set; the same cards in the ink-saver set are on page 13.

13  What do you like to do after school? WEEKEND AND FREE TIME	14  What's a game you like to play at home? WEEKEND AND FREE TIME	15  What's something you watched that you liked? WEEKEND AND FREE TIME
16  What do you like to do outside? WEEKEND AND FREE TIME	17  What's something fun you're planning to do soon? WEEKEND AND FREE TIME	18  Who did you play with this week? WEEKEND AND FREE TIME
19  What did you have for lunch today? SCHOOL DAY	20  What's your favorite subject in school? SCHOOL DAY	21  What did you do in class today? SCHOOL DAY
22  Who did you sit with at lunch today? SCHOOL DAY	23  What's something new you learned today? SCHOOL DAY	24  What class are you looking forward to? SCHOOL DAY

CATEGORIES ON THIS PAGE

Weekend and Free Time, School Day. A category can run across a page break — the small tag printed on every card, not its position on the page, says which category it belongs to.

CARDS

Conversation Starter Cards (Ink-Saver), Set 1 of 3

Cards 1–12 of 36. Print on cardstock, cut on the dashed lines, and pull one at a time — drop it in the holder's starter slot (page 6) or hand it over directly. This is the ink-saver set; the same cards in the color set are on page 7.

1  What's your favorite animal? FAVORITES	2  What's your favorite color? FAVORITES	3  What's your favorite food to eat? FAVORITES
4  What's your favorite thing to do at recess? FAVORITES	5  What's your favorite book or story? FAVORITES	6  What's your favorite game to play? FAVORITES
7  What's your favorite movie or show? FAVORITES	8  What's your favorite season of the year? FAVORITES	9  What's your favorite place to visit? FAVORITES
10  What did you do this weekend? WEEKEND AND FREE TIME	11  What's something fun you did with your family? WEEKEND AND FREE TIME	12  Did you go anywhere fun this week? WEEKEND AND FREE TIME

CATEGORIES ON THIS PAGE

Favorites, Weekend and Free Time. A category can run across a page break — the small tag printed on every card, not its position on the page, says which category it belongs to.

 LOG

Conversation Log

One row every conversation the cards are used for. It counts two things: which starter was used, and how many turns each partner took.

PARTNER A

PARTNER B

WEEK OF

DATE	STARTER CARD USED	PARTNER A TURNS	PARTNER B TURNS	INITIALS

WHAT ONE ROW COUNTS

One row is one conversation: the card used (its printed question, page 7), and how many turns each partner took on the tracker (page 6).

TOTALING THE WEEK

Count the conversations and add both turn columns together for the week; the roll-up (page 18) turns that into an average.

IF A CONVERSATION USES MORE THAN ONE CARD

Write the first card used in the row, and note any others in the Initials column's margin, or add a second row for the same date. Every row still counts as one conversation on the roll-up (page 18).

TRACKER

Weekly Roll-Up and Graph

One row and one dot per week, from the log. Eight weeks across, 0 to 10 turns.

PARTNER A

PARTNER B

SETTING

WEEK OF	CONVERSATIONS HELD	TOTAL TURNS	AVERAGE TURNS	NOTES

AVERAGE TURNS PER CONVERSATION · ONE DOT PER WEEK, THEN DRAW THE LINE



FIGURING THE AVERAGE

Add both turn columns on the log (page 17) for the week, and divide by the conversations held, rounded to one decimal place.

BRINGING THIS PAGE TO A MEETING

A rising average says the back-and-forth is lasting longer; it does not say which topics worked or whose answer was better. This page counts what is plotted; it does not decide what a flat line means.

EXAMPLE

Filled Example

SAMPLE · INVENTED STUDENT

Every number in the read-out is re-counted straight from the tables above; JR means “see the log for initials” and is not itself a field value.

Mia and Sam are invented, and so is every mark on this page. One conversation on the log, then three weeks on the roll-up, to show how the pages read once real marks are on them.

The log, one conversation (page 17)

DATE	STARTER CARD USED	PARTNER A TURNS	PARTNER B TURNS	INITIALS
9/29	What's your favorite animal?	3	2	JR

The roll-up, three weeks (page 18)

#	WEEK OF	CONVERSATIONS HELD	TOTAL TURNS	AVERAGE TURNS	NOTES
1	9/8	5	20	4.0	–
2	9/15	5	25	5.0	–
3	9/22	5	30	6.0	–

READING THE NUMBERS

The conversation above: Mia took 3 turns and Sam took 2, 5 turns total, on the card “What’s your favorite animal?”. The weeks: 20 turns across 5 conversations (4.0 average), then 25 across 5 (5.0 average), then 30 across 5 (6.0 average) — an average that rises week on week, which is what longer back-and-forth exchanges look like on paper. Every average is that week’s own total turns divided by its conversations held.

A LINE THIS SHEET COULD WRITE

“Mia and Sam averaged 6.0 turns per conversation the week of 9/22, up from 4.0 the week of 9/8.”

HOW THE GRAPH WOULD LOOK

Three dots on the roll-up graph (page 18) at 4.0, 5.0 and 6.0, joined by a line that rises. Nothing on the graph says which topic card was used more; the log keeps that record.

WHAT THIS EXAMPLE IS NOT

One invented pair’s conversation and three weeks of totals. It sets no typical turn count, predicts nothing about a real pair of students, and does not say which category works better — that reading is your team’s, not this file’s.

WHAT A CASE MANAGER COULD BRING TO A MEETING

The three roll-up rows (page 18), read alongside the one filled log row (page 17), show a trend and one concrete conversation without bringing the whole stack of daily logs to the table.