

# CO-PLANNING CONVERSATION TOOL

Resource from [MentorTeachers.org](https://www.mentorteachers.org)



Each box below should help to prepare for and practice co-planning once you identify a topic to co-plan. Consider using the "[Mentor's Pocket Guide for Making Your Thinking Explicit](#)" as you discuss. Begin the co-planning process early so TCs have enough lead time to plan/modify, receive feedback, and make adjustments.

Mentor: Sketch in some background information for the lesson

What are the goals for the lesson being co-planned? How is this lesson situated within the unit?

What materials/resources are available for the lesson/unit?

If you are modifying an existing lesson: How has the lesson/unit been structured in the past? Are there any specific issues that could be resolved by planning differently?

Mentor + Teacher Candidate: Have a face-to-face conversation

Discuss, "How could we..."

- Change the activity?
- Shape the discussion differently?
- Revise the learning objectives?"

Mentoring strategies for supporting this conversation:

- Provide a menu: suggest multiple options or categories for what you might do and why
- State a principle of practice: use general principles to prompt or respond to specific ideas

For more guidance, see the "[3 Conversation Practices](#)" resource.

Mentor + Teacher Candidate: Make discussed lesson plans to share

Mentor: Provide feedback on TC's plans/modifications

Where do you anticipate the plan may encounter challenges? Why?  
What are some potential solutions to these challenges?