

Sample Questions to Elicit Mathematical Thinking and Encourage Reflection

1. How did you get that?
2. Can you explain your thinking?
3. Can you explain your method to us? Can you explain why it works?
4. Will this way always work?
5. How are you checking your answers?
6. Is there another way you can solve this?
7. How do you know you are right?
8. What could you do when you are stuck?
9. Can you convince me?
10. What are you working on?
11. Could you tell me more about that?
12. How do you know?
13. What have you tried?
14. Is there another way to do this?

Teacher Prompts to Encourage Conjecturing:

- What if...? (What if this was a rectangle instead of a triangle?)
- Have you thought about.... (Have you ever thought about using a number line?)
- What do you need help with?
- Does this remind you of something we've done before?
- So you're saying that...?

Questions to Support Math Conversation Among Students

- What questions can you ask your partner?
- What words might you use?
- Can someone restate what _____ said?
- Who can add on to what _____ said?
- Can you tell me why?
- I think _____, what do you think?
- I disagree/agree because...
- Can you tell me more about that?