

Helpful Language for Conferences

Opening the Conversation

- ❖ How's your reading going?
- ❖ What are you thinking about your book?
- ❖ Where are you in your reading?
- ❖ Is this a good book choice for you?
- ❖ How are you enjoying this author?
- ❖ Talk to me about your reading.
- ❖ That is a [book, author] I love.
- ❖ That's a book I want to read.

Sampling the Student's Oral Reading

- ❖ Read a part you really liked.
- ❖ Read from where you are.
- ❖ Listen to your reading. How does it sound?
- ❖ Read your journal letter so far.

Encouraging Monitoring and Reflection

- ❖ How well are you understanding your book?
- ❖ Do you have any questions for me?
- ❖ Are there any confusing parts?
- ❖ Is this book "just right" for you?
- ❖ How are you doing with the variety of books you are reading?
- ❖ How can I help?
- ❖ What can I help you think about?
- ❖ What's going well in your reading?
What can I help you do better?
- ❖ What goals do you have for your reading?
- ❖ What do you think about your reading list so far?

- ❖ How are you doing with your journal writing?
- ❖ Choose the best journal letter you've written so far.
Why is it your best?

Encouraging Connections

- ❖ How is this book like [another book read]?
- ❖ When I read this book I
- ❖ This book reminded me of [another text, characters, place, plot].
- ❖ Did you notice that this author ...

Encouraging Critical Reading

- ❖ Would you recommend this book to other students?
- ❖ What's the best part of your reading so far?
- ❖ What do you think about the author's writing?
- ❖ How does this book compare with this author's other books?

Extending the Student's Reading Interests

- ❖ I suggest this [title, author, genre] because I think you would like it.
- ❖ What are you thinking about reading next?

Extending Problem-Solving Strategies

- ❖ Let me show you a way to figure out that word.
- ❖ In today's minilesson, we.... Have you tried that strategy? Or have you been thinking about that?
- ❖ How are you doing with what you just learned in the minilesson?
- ❖ What problems have you encountered that I can help you with?

Figure 8-9. Helpful Language for Conferences