

# **Ten Top Tips for Facilitators**

There is a conversation in the room that only these people at this moment can have. Find it.

- Adrienne Maree Brown

If you are facilitating a Big Education Conversation, these tips are for you!

Make sure you share the Conversation Guide with all those taking part in the conversation, and read the Facilitator Guide if you want more detailed support. Good luck



Scan me for further resources

Anyone can be a facilitator. Your role is to make sure the conversation is: open and authentic, inclusive and imaginative, enjoyable and playful, intentional and empowering...



students educators



community leaders system leaders and everyone else

# **Prepare**



Decide on a clear timeframe for your conversation and structure accordingly. Does your group have time for...

## 15 minutes



Break into smaller groups of 4-5. Focus on Conversation Guide steps 1, 2 and 5.

### 30 minutes



Expand your group, divide your time between all 5 steps.

### 60 minutes



Try including a creative imagination exercise!

Find a secure and comfortable space for the conversation. Preferably a neutral space, which will help people think beyond their present education system and structures. Sitting in a circle helps everyone connect with each other.

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- **Be clear about the objectives of the conversation** and how information will be used beyond the conversation. The Big Education Conversation is a space to:
- reflect on your own beliefs about the purpose of education and listen to the views of others
- reimagine education, identifying small steps you will take individually or collectively to change education for the better
- add your voice to a global conversation on the purpose of education







- Agree on clear participation norms as a group. For example each person has 2 minutes to share, and every person has the opportunity to share. If anyone doesn't want to share, that's okay too.
- **Establish respect and encourage participation.** Create a space where all participants can share their perspectives and feel respected for their viewpoints. Make sure that conversations are facilitated ethically, including protecting confidentiality.



- Allow space for pause and/or silence. This can be useful when there is tension, but they also invite reflection and support quieter participants to share their perspectives.
- Use relevant conventions or language to help participants understand the context of the discussion and feel comfortable.
- Try to be playful and have fun!



Remember to leave a little time at the end to talk about your next steps.
A goal of the Big Education Conversation is to kickstart dialogue about education that can help inform and inspire action.