

Navigating Conversations

In this coding challenge, students will code Root to navigate the whiteboard grid and help start some conversations about friendship, courage, and values. Gamify conversations and help the Root robot clear the board!

Teacher Prep

- Print and cut out Navigation and Question Cards
- Preview questions for conversation

Getting Started

When students enter into conversation, it's important to agree on expectations so everyone can feel heard. You can generate expectations as a whole group or if you already have co-created expectations for your learning community, this might be a great opportunity to revisit them as a class. Some examples include:

- One mic (Allow students to take turns speaking)
- Practice active listening (Listen with your ears, eyes, heart, body, and brain)
- Be brave (Ask questions when you don't understand and be ready to learn!)

Subject(s):

Coding / Robotics
SEL: Communication

Experience Level:

Beginner

Time:

30-45 mins

Group Size:

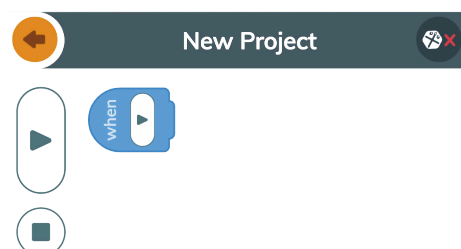
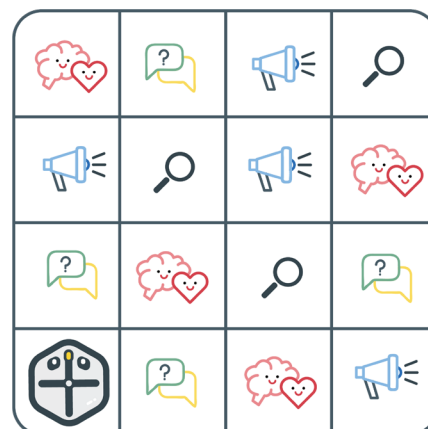
Small Groups

Supplies:

Root Robot
iRobot Coding App
Whiteboard Grid
Scissors (for prep)

Game Set Up

1. In small groups, set up the whiteboard grid as a gameboard. Use the space side of the grid with coordinate axis labels. Place Question Cards (4 of each type) randomly facedown on each square. Then, place Root on A4.
2. Open the iRobot Coding App and open a new project. Click on the Root robot icon to pair your robot.



Game Play

Player 1 draws a Navigation Card and programs Root to move to that coordinate square. When Root lands on the space, flip over the Question Card. Read the Question Card out loud and let the group think about their response. Player 1 will respond first.

When everyone has responded, the turn is over. Place the Question Card in a discard pile on the side of the grid. The next student draws a Navigation Card and repeats the process. Continue until all Question Cards have been answered or time is up.

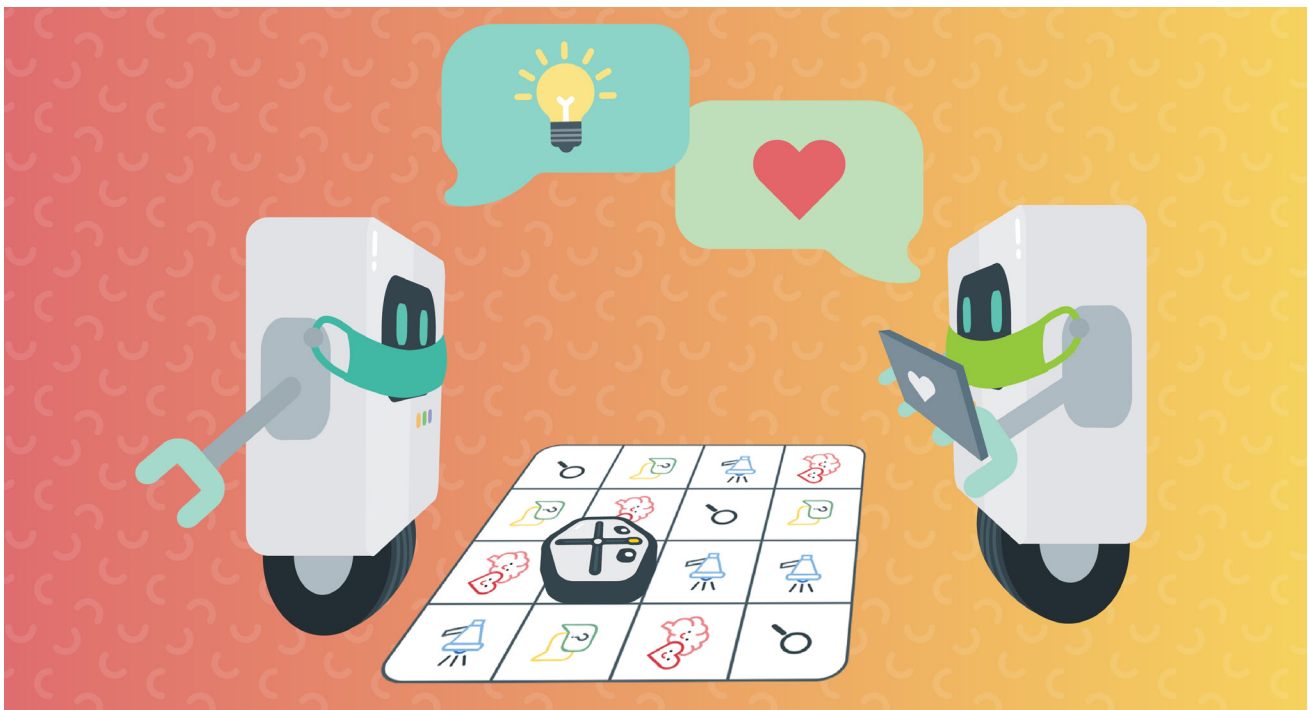
Reflection

At the end of the lesson, bring students back to a whole group for discussion. Some questions to help guide the discussion and engage students include:

- What surprised you about this activity?
- Which questions were difficult to answer? Which questions were easy to answer?
- Did your group find similarities or agree during the game?
- Did your group find differences or disagree during discussion?
- What did you learn about yourself in this activity?

Continue the Conversation

Looking for more SEL activities for students? Check out the **iRobot Education Learning Library** for additional resources!



Question Card Preview

These questions are conversation starters for students. Select specific questions or use the template to create your own!



Examine the Situation

- While walking to school, you see a student from your class push another student. What would you do?
- A new student joins your class. You learn he just moved here. In the cafeteria, he is sitting all by himself. What would you do?
- You and your friends are picking teams for basketball. Angel doesn't get picked and your friends just laugh and start the game. What would you do?
- While in the bathroom, you overhear two friends saying hurtful things about another friend. What would you do?
- You studied really hard for your test and find out you did not do well. What would you do?
- You spent extra time on your art assignment. You find it torn up on your desk. What would you do?
- You find a note on the floor that says unkind things about another student. What would you do?
- One of your classmates posts something online that makes you feel unsafe. What would you do?
- Your friend posts a meme online that hurts your feelings. What would you do?



I'm Wondering

- What makes a good neighbor?
- Is it easy to make new friends, why or why not?
- How do you feel when you ask for help?
- How do you make others feel welcomed?
- What does it mean to be brave?
- What do you do when you feel sad?
- Is it easy to share? Why or why not?
- How do you help a friend who is upset?
- What is a good strategy to help you stay focused?
- Who is someone you look up to?



Speak Your Truth

- What are you most proud of?
- What is something you like about yourself?
- What helps you calm down when you're feeling upset or angry?
- What is the kindest thing someone has said or done for you?
- What is an important value in a friend?
- What is the most important value in your classroom?
- How do you respond when something is unfair?
- What is something you can teach to others?
- Share something special about the person sitting to your right.



Call to Action

- Next time I hear someone say something unkind, I will _____.
- Next time I feel small, I will _____.
- Next time I am proud of my friend, I will _____.
- Next time I see something unfair, I will _____.
- Next time I feel sad, I will _____.
- Next time I feel upset, I will _____.
- Next time I meet someone new, I will _____.
- Next time I am confused, I will _____.
- Next time I feel lonely, I will _____.

NOTE: Print all game cards double-sided!



Coordinate:

A1

Coordinate:

A2

Coordinate:

A3

Coordinate:

A4

Coordinate:

B1

Coordinate:

B2

Coordinate:

B3

Coordinate:

B4

Coordinate:

C1



**Navigation
Card**



**Navigation
Card**



**Navigation
Card**



**Navigation
Card**



**Navigation
Card**



**Navigation
Card**



**Navigation
Card**



**Navigation
Card**



**Navigation
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Coordinate:

C2

Coordinate:

C3

Coordinate:

C4

Coordinate:

D1

Coordinate:

D2

Coordinate:

D3

Coordinate:

D4

Coordinate:

Choose
your own!

Coordinate:

Choose
your own!



**Navigation
Card**



**Navigation
Card**



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You spent extra time on your art assignment. You find it torn up on your desk.

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Examine the Situation

You find a note on the floor that says unkind things about another student.

What would you do?

Examine the Situation

One of your classmates posts something online that makes you feel unsafe.

What would you do?

Examine the Situation

Your friend posts a meme online that hurts your feelings.

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Speak Your Truth

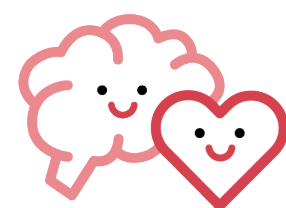
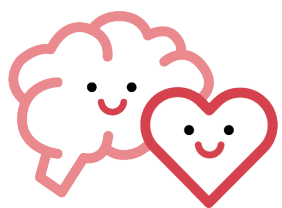
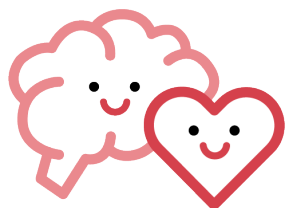
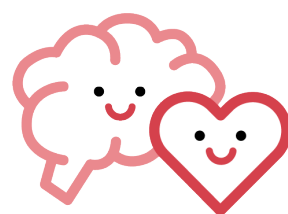
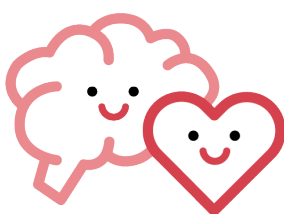
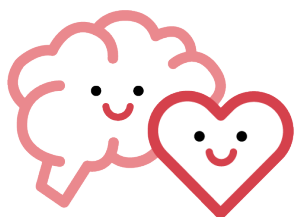
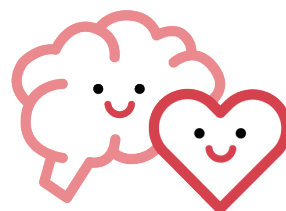
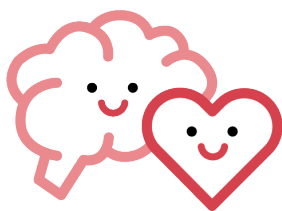
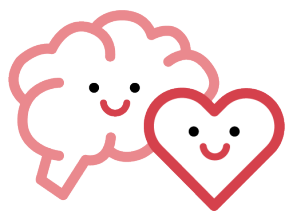
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Call to Action

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I will _____.

