

Staying on Topic

When people have a conversation, they pick a topic to discuss. They will often talk about this topic for a while and give each person a chance to make comments or ask questions about the topic. When everyone is done talking about the topic, they will then begin to talk about something different. **This is called “switching topics”.**

When you have a conversation with someone about a topic, it is kind of like following a path together. You are following a path in your minds together by thinking about the same topic and focusing on the comments that are being made.

When someone in the conversation “switches topics”, they are “changing the path” they are on. This forces the other people in the conversation to have to switch paths, too.

This is ONLY okay if everyone is ready to talk about something new.

