

**DIALOGUE  
WORKS**

# HomeTalk

thoughtful conversations for families and schools

Let's talk about...

## Competition

*compiled by Nick Chandley [www.philosophyforschools.co.uk](http://www.philosophyforschools.co.uk)*



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**Note to parents/carers and teachers**

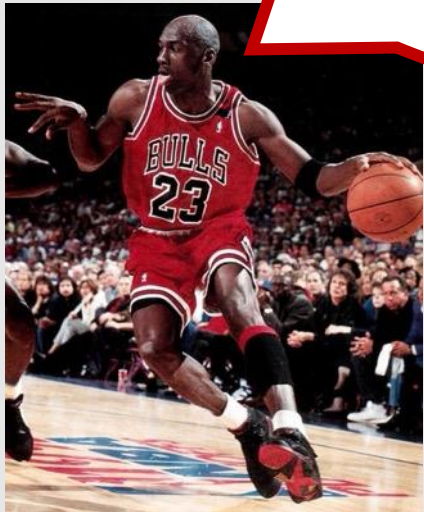
This pack contains links to external websites. Whilst we take every care to make sure these are suitable, you may want to check the content before showing them to children.



To get HomeTalk emailed every month, message <https://bit.ly/hometalk-sign-up>

# Quotes about competition

You have competition every day because you set such high standards for yourself that you have to go out every day and live up to that.



Michael Jordan  
basketball player

Competition is great. And as long as it's friendly and not a malicious thing, then I think it's cool.



Janet Jackson  
singer-songwriter

A horse never runs so fast as when he has other horses to catch up and outpace.



Ovid  
poet (43BC-17/18AD)

Michael Jordan quote from [https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/michael\\_jordan\\_447197?src=t\\_competition](https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/michael_jordan_447197?src=t_competition)  
Janet Jackson quote from [https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/janet\\_jackson\\_461246?src=t\\_competition](https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/janet_jackson_461246?src=t_competition)  
Ovid quote from <https://www.aquotes.com/quote/647866>  
Michael Jordan photo: Unknown author, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons  
Janet Jackson photo: Rich Esteban, CC-BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons  
Ovid photo: Auréola, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

# Thinking about competition

## Caring thinking

Does your gain have to be someone else's loss?

## Collaborative thinking

Is it a single team that competes, or the individuals within it? Or both?



## Creative thinking

Look around your dinner table. How many different competitions can you think up using what you can see?

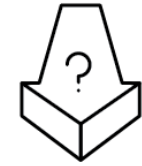
## Critical thinking

What might be the implications of everyone in a competition winning?

Do you think humans will become more competitive?

How did you feel the last time you were involved in a competition?

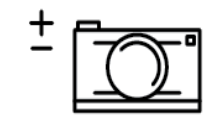
Think of 5, or maybe 10, competitions. What is the same about them all?



Think **AHEAD**

Think **BACK**

**CONNECT**



**DIVIDE**

**LISTEN/LOOK**

**ZOOM (in/out)**

Can you list all the different competitions at your school?

Can you spot anyone being competitive?

Is life just one big competition?

What's more important, the beginning, middle or end of a competition?

# Discussion suggestions (age 3 - 5)

## Stimulus



<https://youtu.be/m1NvpkvYEIU>

### Broadfield Primary School's Nursery Sports Day

There are all kinds of competitions taking place at Broadfield Primary School's sports day. How many different ones can you see?

## Talking Points

- Which sport in the video do you think would be the hardest to play, and why?
- Some grown-ups were playing too. Would they be better than the children?
- Are there any competitions that children would be better at than grown-ups?

## Activity

- Play 'concentration clap' with someone – see if you can clap once at the same time as they do. Take it in turns to be the one to start.
- Think of ways to get better at the game and try them out, then have a competition with lots of your friends and family. Is there a winner?

# Discussion suggestions (age 6 - 9)

## Stimulus



[https://youtu.be/BRjQ1D\\_7g3g](https://youtu.be/BRjQ1D_7g3g)

## Animals predicting World Cup match results

Here we see a range of animals that have been reported as predicting the outcome of football matches. What do you think?

## Talking Points

- Are any of these animals more likely to be able to predict football results than the others?
- When we try to predict, is it just a guess?
- Is it even possible to predict the result of a competition – or anything?

## Activity

- Pick a game to watch, either on TV or in real life.
- Make a list of all the things it would be good to know in order to help you predict the result.
- Have a go at predicting the result.
- How did you do? Would any other information have been helpful?

# Discussion suggestions (age 10+)

## Stimulus



<https://youtu.be/dqDZftgB2lw>

## Technology in Sport

This short video makes us think about the use of technology in sport. Does this mean, though, that those competitors with more money to access new technologies will achieve more success?

## Talking Points

- Of the range of applications of new technology in this video, are any more or less acceptable than others?
- Would you invest money to help you win?
- Is competition fairer now than it used to be?

## Activity

- Search for examples where technology has been used to cheat, or gain advantage, in competitions. Make a list.
- Discuss with someone else whether you feel any of these examples are more or less justifiable than another, and what you think this means for the future of competition.

# More on competition...

The Football Association teaching resources:

<https://www.thefa.com/get-involved/footballs-staying-home/team-talk>

The Literacy Trust competitions and resources:

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/competitions/>

STEM Learning's competitions and challenges:

<https://www.stem.org.uk/enrichment/competitions-challenges>

The School Reading List's wonderful collection of competitions:

<https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/competitions-for-children/childrens-writing-competitions/>



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➤ More about HomeTalk, including previous editions

➤ Parent Talk Moves – tips for great conversations with your children

To get HomeTalk emailed every month,  
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#P4C and #thinkingmoves



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# Training opportunities for teachers, support staff and parents

## P4C Plus Foundation course (12hrs)

*Teaching that puts more thinking into learning*

- Introduces you to **P4C Plus** and builds your skills over the first year of practice
- Equips you with a range of skills to use in P4C inquiries and throughout the curriculum
- Includes premium resources and teacher guide

## Thinking Moves A – Z course (6hrs)

*Making metacognition simple across the curriculum*

- Shows you how **Thinking Moves** can enhance thinking in any subject, as well as in P4C inquiries
- Gives you practical guidance on how to embed Thinking Moves into learning
- Includes premium resources and handbook

Both courses available online or face-to-face, for individuals or whole-school teams

See <https://dialogueworks.co.uk/training/> for upcoming courses

Contact [enquiries@dialogueworks.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@dialogueworks.co.uk) for bookings or more information