

DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS ROLE PLAY

Objectives

- Students will be introduced to some of the topics in *Alma*
- Students will explore a hypothetical difficult conversation based on their own lived experiences
- Students will create the end to an improvisational situation using text from *Alma*
- Students will practice using dialogue and characterization

Materials needed

- Post-it notes and markers

Activity

Alma is full of difficult conversations between a mother and her daughter, full of topics like politics, alcohol, boundaries, and plans for the future.

1. Invite the students to find a partner and decide who is Character A and Character B.
2. Using the graphic below, the students will select an option from each of the four areas: Topics, Characters, Place, and Time. They should pick the options that make the most sense to them. Students should also decide if they are going to showcase the best, worse, or most likely scenario.
3. In partners, Character A and Character B will add their own dialogue to the following two lines to create an ending. They should add at least three new lines each.

Character A: "I gotta make sure you're going to be okay."

Character B: "I'm going to be fine."

4. Students will create a hypothetical, but difficult conversation based on their selected options. The basis of These difficult conversations are their own lived experiences, of which, they are the expert.
5. Share: Invite the students to share their difficult conversations with the class. The class will then vote on which scenario they think was reflected in the scene. If they don't feel comfortable acting out the conversation, they can also write it down as a script.

While you watch *Alma*, notice the difficult conversations the characters are having. How many of these conversations have you had with your family? Are these conversations your family needs to have? What do you think the results of these conversations would be?

DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS ROLEPLAY

TOPICS

Setting Boundaries
Life Plans After Graduation
Politics
Disagreeing About a Punishment

CHARACTERS

Parent and Child
Best Friends
Teacher and Student
Grandparent and Grandchild

PLACE

Home
Corner at a Party
In the Car
Principal's Office

TIME

6 AM
Midnight
Present Day
Year 2106

BEST CASE SCENARIO

WORST CASE SCENARIO

MOST LIKELY SCENARIO