

## Communication Regulators

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### Talking Chips

Each person is given a number of markers. Each time a person wants to talk, a chip is placed in the center of the table. When an individual's chips are all in the center of the table, s/he cannot talk again until everyone's chips are all in the center. The chips are then retrieved and redistributed to begin again.

*VARIATION:* Colored Chips: Each person is given a number of colored chips to facilitate reflection. For example, after five minutes there might be 7 red chips, 5 blue chips, 3 green chips, and no yellow chips. Discussion: "How equal was your participation and what do you need to do to ensure that it is equal?" The chips serve as a visual reminder of the number of turns each member takes in participating in conversation.

### Yarn—Yarn

The structure provides a record of interaction patterns. Each time a team member wants to talk, he/she must wrap the yarn around his/her finger. At the end of the conversation, the visual should provide information for reflection on who did the most/least amount of talking.

### Paraphrase Passport

After someone has contributed an idea, another person must correctly restate that idea before contributing his/her own idea.

Ideas adapted from:

Kagan, Spencer. (1992). *Cooperative Learning*. San Juan Capistrano, CA: Kagan Cooperative Learning.

Bennett, Barrie; Rolheiser-Bennett, Carol; and Stevahn, Laurie. (1991). *Cooperative Learning: Where Heart Meets Mind*. Toronto, Ontario, Canada: Educational Connections.