



LISTENING THREE WAYS

Goal: Practice several dimensions of listening with your fellow learning assistants and brainstorm ways to listen to students' science ideas.

Setup: Break into groups of 4. Each person picks one of the following roles (facilitators may have groups repeat the activity several times with new roles):

Speaker: Talks about the prompt given by your LA facilitator for 1 minute.

Listener 1: Silent, listening for *the facts* expressed by the speaker. You are a detective of the pieces of knowledge and information shared by the speaker.

Listener 2: Silent, listening for *emotions/feelings* expressed by the speaker. You are a detective of how the speaker is feeling about what they are telling you and how they are feeling as they speak to you.

Listener 3: Silent, listening for *big-picture inferences* about what is important to the speaker (values, goals, overarching theories or perspectives, etc.) You are a detective of the organization of information and connections between ideas.

Sample prompt: Why/how did you decide to be a Learning Assistant?

Discussion questions:

- What did each listener notice about what the speaker said? Share one or two things you heard.
- Based on what you noticed, what is one open-ended follow up question you would ask to understand the speaker better?
- In a science conversation, what *facts*, *emotions*, or *big-picture inferences* do you imagine listening for?
- How can each dimension of listening benefit science teaching?

Part 2: Choose a listening role, and watch a science classroom video (e.g. Periscope) from the lens of that role. Discuss what you notice.