

## 8 Debate

Debate is an excellent discussion structure that fosters the use of critical thinking and the use of facts and evidence to support a viewpoint.

### **Instructions:**

1. Present students with a question or statement for the debate.
2. Assign a team of students to defend the statement, a team to argue against it, and provide time for research.
3. Have students prepare for the debate by recording arguments in the following format.

### **Research Format**

List arguments, significant facts and evidence to support your viewpoint.

List likely arguments that the opposing team might make to counter your viewpoint.

List arguments, facts and evidence to discredit those opposing your viewpoint.

Outline two-to-three minute opening and closing statements.

### **Use the follow guideline to conduct the debate**

<b>Affirmative Team</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Negative Team</b>	<b>Time</b>
Opening statement	2-3 minutes	Opening statements	2-3 minutes
Rebuttal	2-3	Rebuttal	2-3
Back and forth debate	15-25	Back and forth debate	15-25
Closing statement	2-3	Closing Statement	2-3