Architecture of a Conference

Listen

- Be present
- What do you notice?
- What do you wonder about?
- What are the strengths of the writer?
- What does the writer struggle with?

Think/Decide

- Of all the things this reader/writer does really well, what is the one thing that should be appreciated?
- Of all of the things this reader/writer could do better, what is the one thing that will impact him/her the most?

Teach

- How can I support this student in trying something new?
- How could I probe this student’s thinking about their reading or writing that will tell me more about their literacy skills?
- How do I work collaboratively with this student to address the identified need?

Try

- How can I challenge a student to try a new strategy or skill?
- How can I ask students to be more aware of a strategy, skill or writer’s craft?

At the end of a conference, give students an action step.