Tools to Encourage Dialogue & Discussion

Promote inquiry
(ask for others ideas before launching into your own)
Gets ideas on the table

Pause
(pause before blurting out your ideas)
Allows time for everyone to think

Paraphrase
(repeat back someone's idea in your own words)
Helps with clarity and shows you value the idea

Probe
(ask follow up questions)
Helps clarify group thinking

Put Ideas on the Table
(speak up!)
Gets input from everyone

Pay attention to yourself and others
(be aware of how you say things and how people respond to you)
Improves group functioning

Presume positive intentions