Language matters!

**Use words in conversations such as:**

or not because some all never probably

Example: “**All** of us have a family but only **some** of us have sisters.”

**Mathematical reasoning questions/statements:**

Are you sure?

How do you know that?

Why do you think…?

What else can you find that works like this?

What would happen if…?

How this could be changed?

What would the pattern be?

What if…?

I wonder why…

Perhaps it’s because…

**Model reasoning language in everyday experiences:**

“If that is right, then…

“I want to find out if…so I will try…”

“That can’t be, because if it were, then…”

Teachers should also model reasoning for young children by thinking out loud and expressing their own thoughts about problems; this will facilitate children’s learning to think in similar ways.

*The Young Child and Mathematics, Second Edition*, pp. 36-37

*California Preschool Curriculum Framework, Volume 1*, pp. 292-293