

QUICK START GUIDE

Objective: Students will be able to discover positive ways to prevent and resolve conflicts.

Activities: Analyzing Conflicts Activity and Discussion, What Happens Next? Role Plays

Skills: Listening, Making Inferences, Communicating Orally and in Writing, Critical Thinking

LESSON MATERIALS

- Scenario handout, cut apart
- Two sheets of paper, with the words "Peaceful Ways to Solve Problems" written on the top of one sheet and "Angry Ways to Solve Problems" written on the other.
- Pens or pencils

(Note: This lesson is designed for parents to do with their children. As a way to build a kind community in the classroom, teachers could also do this activity with their students.)

INTRODUCTION

Parent (Teacher) says "Today we are going to talk about what it means to get along with others and solve conflicts in a peaceful and positive way."

PROCEDURE

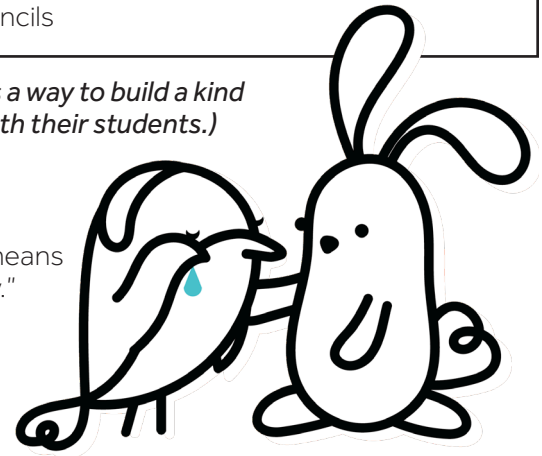
1. Analyzing Conflicts Activity and Discussion

- 1) Say "To begin, think about a time when you disagreed with your brother, sister, mom, dad, or friend. Did you solve the problem peacefully or in an angry way? Could you have said something that would have prevented the conflict from happening at all?"
- 2) Allow each family (group) member to take a turn telling about a conflict and how they resolved it.
- 3) As they talk, write any peaceful or positive ways to solve problems on one piece of paper, and negative or angry ways on the other.
- 4) After everyone has had a turn, discuss other positive and negative ways to solve problems. Positive ways include: saying something to prevent the conflict, talking through different solutions, listening to the other person, respecting their opinion, telling them how you feel using I statements, walking away, agreeing to disagree. Negative ways include: getting angry, demanding that the person agree with you, yelling, hitting, stomping away.

2. What Happens Next? Role Plays

- 1) Say "Conflicts happen everyday at school, at home, and on the soccer field. Just like we might need to work on our writing or math skills, we often need to learn how to resolve conflicts. To help, we are going to act out some scenarios together and figure out the best way to solve a problem. Sometimes that means doing or saying something that will prevent the conflict from happening at all!"
- 2) Hand out a scenario to two people and have them develop a positive and a negative way to resolve the conflict.
- 3) Then, have each team perform their skit for the other family (group) members.

Summary: Parent says "Today we talked about what it means to solve conflicts positively. It may mean saying something to prevent the conflict, agreeing to disagree, listening more carefully, or using 'I' statements to express how you feel. The important thing is to see another person's point of view. Remember that you are in charge of how you respond to conflict and what happens next!"



WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?



Scenario #3:

Your parents buy your sister a toy at the store. You don't remember them ever buying you a toy like that. You have been wanting a new gaming system for a whole year. What happens next?

1. To prevent a conflict or solve the conflict positively, I would...



2. To solve the conflict negatively, I would...

Scenario #1:

The teacher has asked the class to read silently. Two students are talking and it is really bothering you. What happens next?

1. To prevent a conflict or solve the conflict positively, I would...

2. To solve the conflict negatively, I would...

Now act it your solutions for your family (group)!

Scenario #2:

I bump into you by accident in the hallway. What happens next?

1. To prevent a conflict or solve the conflict positively, I would...

2. To solve the conflict negatively,

I would... _____

Now act out your solutions for your family (group)!

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Scenario #4:

Your friend wants to borrow your iPod. Last time he borrowed it, he didn't return it for a whole month and had erased all your music.
What happens next?

1. To prevent a conflict or solve the conflict positively, I would...

2. To solve the conflict negatively, I would... _____

Now act out your solutions for your family (group)!



Scenario #5:

You and your best friend have planned a play date for Saturday and you have been looking forward to it all week. On Friday afternoon, your friend tells you you'll have to do it another time because she is doing something with someone else.
What happens next?



1. To prevent the conflict or solve the conflict positively, I would...

2. To solve the conflict negatively, I would... _____

Now act out your solutions for your family (group)!

Scenario #6:

While getting ready for school, you notice your favorite sweater is missing. You figure your younger sister has borrowed it, so you ask her where it is. She reluctantly pulls it out from under her bed only to reveal a big stain on the front of it.
What happens next?

1. To prevent the conflict or solve the conflict positively, I would...

2. To solve the conflict negatively, I would... _____

Now act out your solutions for your family (group)!

