

Resolving Conflict with Respect

While differences may cause conflict, for the sake of the common good, we practice empathy and respect for others.

Focus Questions: What does it look like to hear all voices in a community? How can we respect others' right to be heard?

Anticipatory Set

"Different people have different opinions, and it's okay to respect all of them."

- Juan Pablo Galavis (a retired professional soccer player)

Think about a time when you had a difference with one of your friends or family.

- What was it about?
- How did you resolve it?
- How did you feel afterward?

Discuss why respecting and listening to different opinions is important in a diverse world. Share times when a first impression of a situation was wrong.



Scenarios

1. At recess time a group of fifth-grade boys and girls head out to the playground. They join a group from another class that is gathering to play a team game. They are in the process of dividing into teams, and one of the boys who is selected as captain is forming a team with NO girls on it.
2. The science club of a diverse high school is setting up a team to compete with other schools. Mike, the captain of the team, is allowed to pick the 4-member team, subject to approval of the principal. Mike, a white male, announces that he will pick the science club members with the three highest scores on the PSAT to join him on the team. This year, those three happen to be white male students.

Small Group Discussion

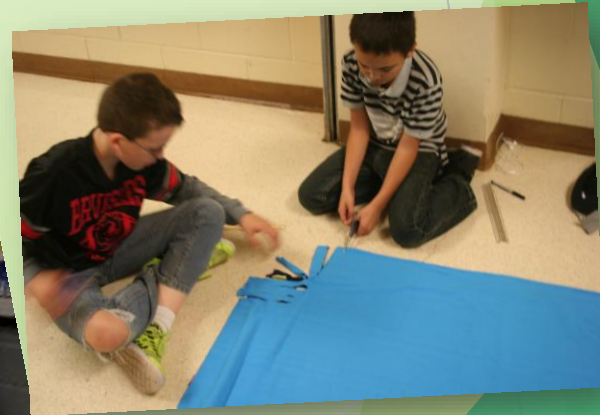
In response to the scenario, discuss the following questions:

1. In what ways was the captain of the team being fair, and what ways was he unfair?
2. If you were present, what could you have contributed to a more fair outcome?
3. What is the proper process for a fair outcome?
4. How does the Galavis quote help with the discussion and resolution?



Whole Group Discussion

1. Share your group's ideas from the discussions.
2. Together, create a classroom master plan for effective conflict resolution.



Service Project:

Share your final collaborative conflict resolution guidelines with others at your school.



Create a conflict resolution poster or use social media, video, or other means.

Be sure the steps on the poster or other media reflect the a path to effectively listen to others, strategize options for solving the conflict, and reach mutual understanding.

Enrichment:

Find additional quotes that display the importance of peaceful conflict resolution to share with the group.



Reflection:

In a written response, address two or more points listed below:

1. How did your thinking change in regards to recognizing conflict and understanding skills to resolve it?
2. Give a personal example of a disagreement you have had and the steps you used / could have used to bring both sides together.
3. Explain the role of an outside mediator and when it could become necessary.

Philanthropy Benchmarks

1. Recognize that citizens have a responsibility for the common good as defined by democratic principles.
2. Describe a benefit of group cooperation.
3. Describe the importance of hearing all voices in a community and respecting their right to be heard.
4. Discuss the importance of respect for others.
5. Identify the relationship between individual rights and community responsibility.
6. Discuss an issue affecting the common good in the classroom or school and demonstrate respect and courtesy for differing opinions.
7. Participate in acts of democratic citizenship in the classroom or school, such as voting, group problem solving, classroom governance or elections.
8. Participate in acts of democratic citizenship in the classroom or school, such as voting, group problem solving, classroom governance or elections.
9. Utilize the persuasive power of written or oral communication as an instrument of change in the community, nation or the world.
10. Participate in acts of democratic citizenship in the community, state or nation, such as petitioning authority, advocating, voting, group problem solving, mock trials or classroom governance and elections.