

## Conflict? Resolved!

Grades 3–5

15 minutes

**Children will learn to better understand others and explore ways to resolve conflicts.**

Learning Targets	SEL Competencies	Materials
Children will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand that conflict creates negative feelings in all participants.</li> <li>• Identify ways to resolve a conflict.</li> </ul>	CASEL 5: Relationship Skills, Social Awareness  Skills: Resolving conflicts, Taking others' perspectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Bikes or Basketball?</b> student resource</li> </ul>

### Teach

Write the word *conflict* on the board. Ask pairs to define it. Point out to children that everyone experiences conflict. Have them think about a time they experienced conflict. Then, have small groups discuss how experiencing the conflict made them feel and how they think others involved in the conflict felt. Guide children to recognize that experiencing conflict can make everyone involved feel badly.

Write the word *resolution* on the board. Guide children to understand that a *resolution* is a solution to a conflict. Tell children that finding a resolution can make everyone feel better. Read aloud the story on the **Bikes or Basketball?** student resource. Then have small groups discuss the questions that follow. Guide children to recognize that Amir and Jordan could have improved the situation by trying to better understand each other.

### Reflect

- What did you learn that will help you resolve real-life conflicts?
- The next time you experience a conflict, how will you respond to the others involved?



#### Expand

Ask children to apply their conflict resolution skills to conflicts they experience in school, on the playground, or at home. Invite children to report their successes to the class.



#### Adapt

Have children role play a response to the conflict described in **Bikes or Basketball?** using what they know about conflict resolution.

This activity can also be used to support Unit 4 lessons on building relationships in Grades 3–5.

## Bikes or Basketball?

### Student Resource for the *Conflict? Resolved!* Activity

**Directions:** Listen to your teacher read the story aloud. Then discuss the questions at the end of the story in a small group.

*On a sunny, spring Saturday, Amir and Jordan were sitting on Amir's porch trying to decide what to do.*

*"Let's ride our bikes to the park," Jordan suggested.*

*"No, my bike's tire is almost flat. I'd have to pump it up," Amir replied. "Why don't we shoot hoops instead?"*

*"Really, Amir?" Jordan asked. "I'm tired of basketball. We played basketball yesterday. I really want to ride bikes."*

*"Well, we rode bikes the day before!" Amir said in a louder-than-normal voice. He was starting to get angry. "We always do what you want!"*

*"Do what you want, then!" Jordan shouted. "But you'll have to play basketball by yourself!"*

*"You're such a jerk, Jordan!" Amir shouted as he stomped into his house, slamming the door behind him.*

### Discussion Questions

- How do you think Amir and Jordan feel? Why do you think that?
- How might the ending change if Amir gives in and Jordan gets his way?
- How might the ending change if Jordan gives in and Amir gets his way?
- What do you think Amir and Jordan can do differently to avoid or resolve the conflict?
- How can the conflict be resolved so that both boys are happy?

Student resources can be displayed or distributed to students as handouts.