

Iraq: War and Peace Activities

Activity 4: *Resolving Conflict*

Aims

- To enable pupils to think about how conflicts can be resolved in a variety of ways, all with some consequences, but some with worse consequences than others
- To enable pupils to relate classroom issues to what is going on in the wider world.
- To raise pupils' self-esteem

What to do

Outline a situation that could lead to conflict, e.g. one day you find that your calculator is not in your bag. Present the following statements about possible action (and add to them, to a maximum of about ten):

- Tell the teacher
- Accuse someone of taking it and ask them about it
- Accuse someone of taking it and hit them
- Don't do anything
- Feel very upset and go home

In groups discuss which would be each person's preferred course of action. Discuss the pros and cons of each approach. Decide on the most effective method of dealing with the incident within each group, giving reasons. Share the results with the rest of the class. Are the results the same from each group?

Discuss how the results could contribute to better relations within the class and school. Then think about examples of unfair things happening in the world today. Can you think of any that have been caused by people taking other people's things? Can you think of any that have been caused by greed? Or by people not getting on with each other?