

ACTIVITY

What's the best way to stop a conflict?

Stride

Supporting global citizenship in schools

www.stridemagazine.org.uk

This activity provides a forum for children to discuss ways of dealing with conflict which might occur in the playground or classroom.

Aims

- Pupils consider a range of ways in which they could resolve a conflict
- Pupils reflect on responses to historical or contemporary conflicts, locally and globally

What you need

A selection of x 9 *What's the best way to stop a conflict?* cards (see next page)

What to do

Explain to the class they are going to think about the best ways to stop conflict.

Give each group a set of cards and ask them: "what's the best way to stop a conflict"? They should arrange the cards into a diamond 9 with their best option at the top of the diamond and the one they think would be least successful at the bottom.

Ask the groups to share their top and bottom cards. Discuss with the class strategies they have used to stop conflict and which ones they found most useful. Do they understand the consequences of their actions? Do they look for peaceful solutions?

Reflection and evaluation

Once pupils have considered conflict on a personal level, use the following questions to prompt discussion about responses to historical or contemporary conflicts, locally and globally.

Why do countries have soldiers?

Why do people join the army?

What would happen if there were no army?

When is it all right to use force?

Why do countries go to war? Who decides?

This activity is adapted from RISC's
A toolkit of activities to measure attitudinal change
<http://toolkit.risc.org.uk>

CARDS



Fighting until someone wins	Getting people on your side	Mediating
Shouting	Negotiating	Compromising
Listening	Agreeing to arbitration	Finding someone who can talk to both sides
Backing down	Using violence	Name calling
Talking	Thinking about what might happen next	Using a weapon
Apologising	Carrying a weapon	Arguing
Deciding who is to blame	Avoiding violence	