CONFLICT RESOLUTION (LEVEL 2)

Description:	Learners will practise ways to deal with conflicts in a healthy way, learn to manage their own feelings and identify those of others to develop healthy relationships and emotional intelligence. Using their learnings, they will perform a skit or a play for their community members.		
Leading question:	Can I express myself effectively and with empathy during conflicts?		
Subjects:	Social-emotional learning, Literacy		
Total time required:	~45 minutes over 5 days		
Resources required:	- Notebook/ Paper, Pencil/ pen/ markers, jigsaw puzzles		
Learning outcomes:	 Notebook/ Paper, Pencir/ pen/ markers, jigsaw puzzles By the end of this project, learners will be able to: Identify causes and effects of conflicts. Practise different strategies to diffuse or resolve conflict situations. Understand empathy through imagining and describing the feelings and motivations of people in challenging situations. Explore different perspectives to understand an issue better. Write a diary entry from a different perspective. 		
Supervision	Medium		
Previous Learning	N/A		

Note for the educator: This project can get personal for some learners. If you notice signs of discomfort, please proceed with another activity. Do not force a student to participate. Ensure you have their consent before asking them to share something that may trigger unpleasant memories.

Day 1

Today, you will learn what conflict means and reflect on your reaction to conflicts.

Time	Activity and Description		
15 minutes	Word Cloud Activity		
	 Objective: To help learners understand the concept of conflict and expand their vocabulary related to this topic. 		
	- Materials: Whiteboard or poster paper, markers		
	Instructions:		
	 Begin the activity by discussing the concept of conflict with the learners. Ask them to share any experiences they may have had with conflict and how they handled it. 		
	 Write the word "Conflict" in the centre of the whiteboard or poster paper and draw a circle around it. 		
	 Divide the class into groups of 4-5 learners each. 		



	 Assign each group a category related to conflict, such as "Feelings," "Causes," "Solutions," "Actions," or "Consequences." Instruct each group to brainstorm and come up with as many words as they can related to their assigned category. Write down their suggestions on the 		
	board or poster paper around the circle.		
	• Encourage the learners to think of synonyms, antonyms, and related words,		
	and to continue building on each other's suggestions.		
	• Once the word cloud is complete, review it as a class, discussing the		
	different words and their relationships to each other and to the main		
	concept of conflict.		
	 To add an element of competition and excitement, you could have each 		
	group present their word cloud to the class and explain the meanings		
	behind their chosen words.		
	 Optional: Hang the word cloud on the wall for the learners to refer to. 		
	 Optional: Ask the learners to use the word cloud to write a short story or 		
	skit that includes as many of the words as possible.		
15 minutes	Jigsaw Puzzle Collaborative Problem-Solving Activity		
	- Objective: To help learners understand why conflicts happen and to develop		
	their critical thinking and problem-solving skills.		
	 Materials: Two identical jigsaw puzzles with missing pieces (one puzzle for 		
	each group of learners), markers, whiteboard or poster paper		
	Instructions:		
	 Divide the class into two groups, each with its own jigsaw puzzle of missing pieces. 		
	2. Instruct each group to complete their jigsaw puzzle as quickly as possible.		
	3. Once each group has completed their puzzle, bring them together and ask		
	them to compare their puzzles. They will notice that each puzzle is missing a		
	piece that the other group has.		
	4. Ask the learners to brainstorm why this might have happened. Write their		
	suggestions on the whiteboard or poster paper.		
	5. After discussing their ideas, explain that conflicts can often arise from		
	misunderstandings, different perspectives, and a lack of communication or		
	collaboration. Have learners brainstorm other reasons for why conflicts		
	happen.		
	6. Reflect: Were you or someone you know involved in a conflict? Why do you		
	think this conflict happened?		
	7. Ask the learners to think of ways they could have prevented this conflict		
	from happening. Write their suggestions on the whiteboard or poster paper.		
	8. Finally, encourage the learners to work together to create a new jigsaw		
	puzzle using both sets of pieces. Set a timer for 5-7 minutes. This will help		
	them practice collaboration, communication, and problem-solving skills.		
	them practice conaboration, communication, and problem-solving skills.		

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5 minutes	Our Reactions to Conflict:			
	 Refer learners to the previous a groups to come up with a list of with friends and family. Then, h and unhelpful categories. Reflect on whether these respothey respond in these ways. 	responses t ave them gr	they typically us oup the respon	e in conflicts ses into helpful
	 Alternatively, you can have lead conflict then use the table below boxes (w for more o ould typicall ore response	examples. They y handle conflic es to the table a	can tick the t with friends s these are only
	My Response	Usually	Sometimes	Never
	Raise my voice or yell			
	Blame the other			
	Ignore or walk away			
	Apologise			
	Suggest solutions			
	Complain to someone			
	Forgive			
	Threaten			
	Look for a win-win solution			
	Call others names			
	Get upset or cry			
	Ask an adult to help			
	Use humor			
	Let others have their way			

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• Share the following story with learners then have them work in pairs to discuss the table below: Marysia and Rysiek are good friends. However, Rysiek does not like it when Marysia raises her voice during their discussions or when they have misunderstandings. He feels scared and becomes quiet. He wants to share his ideas, but when Marysia yells, Rysiek feels disrespected.

How does he/she feel?	
When does it happen?	
What does she/he need?	
What can they do?	
Closing: Tell learners that in	ill learn valuable d

Day 2

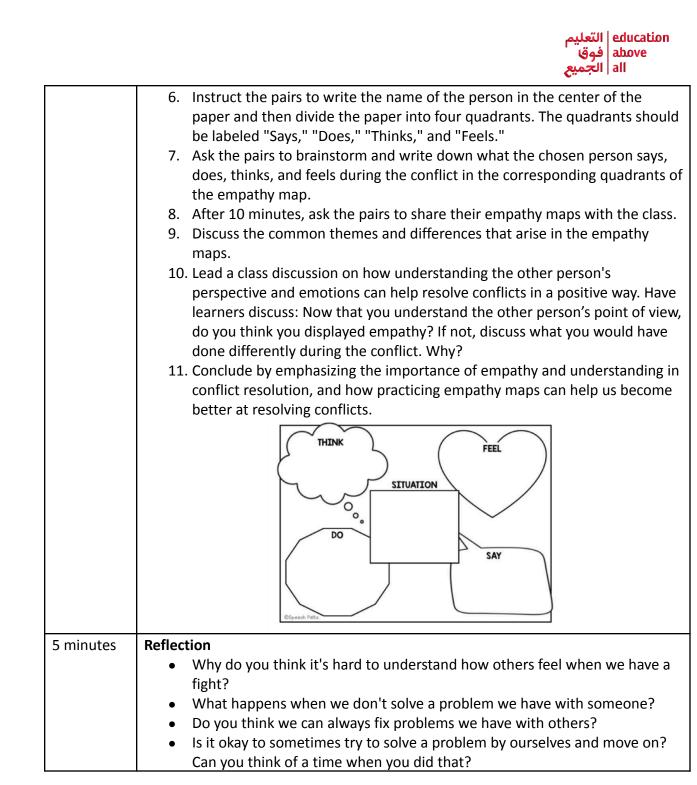
Today, you will learn about empathy and write a diary entry.

situations.

Time	Activity and Description
20 minutes	Today we will be exploring the important skills of managing and understanding emotions and empathy in the context of conflict resolution. Conflicts are a part of life and can be challenging to navigate, but by developing these skills, we can learn how to approach conflicts with greater understanding and empathy.
	Ways to calm down:
	 A big part of resolving a conflict is managing our emotions. Feelings like anger or frustration can make us do or say things we don't mean or will most probably regret later. There are lots of ways to help us manage these emotions. Can you think of any?
	 Have learners think of ways to calm themselves down in such situations.
	Suggestions:
	 Counting to ten. You could count loudly or in your head.
	 Find your happy place. Close your eyes and let your mind take you to a happy memory.

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 Counting items in a room is a great way to help us when we feel angry. Give your feelings a color and explain to someone why you picked this color. Breathing in and out. Imagine you are blowing into a balloon. Take a big deep breath in and slowly breathe out the air as if you are blowing into a balloon. 	
Before we begin, let's take a moment to practice some mindfulness techniques that can help us calm down and focus our minds in the midst of a conflict. By be mindful, we can become more aware of our own emotions and reactions, and better able to empathize with the emotions of others.	ing
 Mindful Breathing Exercise: Start the class with a brief mindfulness exercise to help learners calm down and focus. Have them sit comfortabl in their chairs with their feet on the ground and their hands on their laps Then, guide them through a few minutes of deep breathing, encouraging them to focus on their breath and let go of any distracting thoughts. You can use a script like this: "Let's take a moment to focus on our breath. Close your eyes or keep them softh focused on the floor. Take a deep breath in through your nose, and slowly exhale through your mouth. Let's do that a few more times. Inhale deeply, feeling the a fill up your lungs, and exhale slowly, feeling your body relax. As you breathe, allo your thoughts to come and go without judgment. Let's continue breathing deepl and mindfully for a few more moments." 	y 2 ir ow
Allow 5-10 minutes for this exercise, depending on the needs of your class.	
2. Self-Compassion Practice: After the mindful breathing exercise, introduc the concept of self-compassion and explain how it relates to empathy. As learners to take a moment to reflect on a time when they were hard on themselves or felt self-critical. Then, guide them through a self-compassi practice using a script like this:	sk
"Think back to a time when you felt self-critical or hard on yourself. Maybe you made a mistake, or maybe you didn't live up to your own expectations. Whateve was, try to bring that experience to mind now. As you think about it, notice any feelings of discomfort or tension in your body. Now, imagine that a close friend or family member was going through the same experience. How would you respond to them? Would you be kind and supportiv	

	or critical and judgmental? Take a moment to imagine what you would say to them, and how you would offer them empathy and understanding. Finally, turn that same kindness and understanding toward yourself. Imagine that you are the one going through that experience, and offer yourself the same kindness and empathy that you would offer to someone else. Remember that we all make mistakes and have flaws, and that's okay. Allow yourself to feel that sense of kindness and compassion toward yourself."			
	Allow 5-10 minutes for this exercise, depending on the needs of your class.			
	3. Empathy Building Activity: After the self-compassion practice, have learners pair up and share a personal story about a time when they experienced a conflict. Encourage them to practice active listening and empathy by summarizing their partner's story and sharing how they think their partner felt during the conflict. Then, have them switch roles and repeat the exercise. Allow 10-15 minutes for this activity. Make sure learners know what empathy is (Empathy is being able to understand and share how someone else is feeling, even when you aren't in the same situation). By starting with a mindfulness exercise and incorporating self-compassion			
	practices, learners will be better equipped to engage in the empathy building activity and connect with others on a deeper level. <i>This activity can be adjusted</i> <i>based on the needs and time constraints of your class.</i>			
20 minutes	Activity: Creating an Empathy Map Objective: To develop empathy and understanding towards others involved in a conflict. Materials: Whiteboard, markers, paper, pencils. Instructions:			
	 Introduce the concept of empathy and its importance in conflict resolution. Explain what an empathy map is and how it can be used to understand another person's perspective and feelings. Divide the class into pairs. 			
	 Ask each pair to think of a recent conflict they have experienced with someone, and to choose one person involved in the conflict to focus on for the empathy map activity. Give each pair a sheet of paper and ask them to draw an empathy map for the chosen person. 			



Day 3

Today, you will learn about how to resolve a conflict and write an informal letter.

Time	Activity

EAA welcomes feedback on its projects in order to improve, please use this link: https://forms.gle/pVXs3vQEufuzSShs7



5 minutes	Warm-up Activity: Mindfulness Exercise		
	 Start the class with a mindfulness exercise to help learners focus and 		
	become present.		
	 Encourage learners to take deep breaths and relax their body. 		
10 minutes	Communication matters!		
	An important part of showing empathy and understanding the other person during a		
	conflict lies in the way we listen to them.		
	Activity: Active Listening Exercise		
	• Divide learners into pairs and assign them as Student A and Student B.		
	 Instruct Student A to describe their day yesterday in the most interesting 		
	way possible within one minute.		
	• Instruct Student B to listen to Student A, but pretend to be uninterested.		
	 After one minute, instruct learners to switch roles and repeat the exercise. 		
	 Have the pairs reflect on their experience and answer the following 		
	questions on the worksheet:		
	 How did you feel when you were describing your day to an uninterested partner? 		
	·		
	 How did you feel when you were pretending to be uninterested? What observations did you make about your partner's body 		
	language?		
	 What could you do to make your partner feel more engaged and 		
	interested in what you are saying?		
25 minutes	Expressing Emotions and Needs		
	Objective: To develop communication skills that allow learners to express their		
	emotions and needs effectively.		
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	Instructions:		
	1. Introduction: Discussion		
	 Ask learners to share a time when they had a strong emotional reaction to 		
	something and how they behaved in response.		
	 Ask the learners to think about what they could have done differently to 		
	communicate their emotions and needs effectively.		
	2. Activity: I-Statements Exercise		
	• Explain that I-Statements are a way to communicate our feelings and needs		
	in a non-threatening way, which helps to prevent misunderstandings and		
	conflicts.		
	• I-statements focus on your own feelings and experiences. It does not focus		
	on what you think the other person has done. Here is a model you can use:		



	How you feel	I feel angry		
	What do you have that feeling about	the way you speak to me		
	Why do you feel this way	Because it makes me feel like you do not respect me.		
	What you would like to see instead	I would prefer that you calm yourself down before saying anything to me in a fight.		
	• Apply : Have learners think about their own conflict, or a situation when someone made them upset, either with a classmate or a sibling, and use the '1' statement to share how they feel, then share the statements with their partner or with the class.			
	3. Discussion: Effective C	communication		
	 Ask learners to share h 	now they felt after completing the I-Statem	ents	
	exercise.			
		nts can help us to communicate more effect	ctively and	
	prevent conflicts.			
		• Ask learners to share how they can use I-Statements in their daily lives.		
	4. Conclusion: Reflection		i a la alcilla ta	
		on how they can use effective communicat		
	-	s and needs in a healthy and respectful way		
		actice using I-Statements in their interaction	ns with	
5 minutes	others.			
Jinnutes	Closing Activity: Communication Challenge Materials: Blindfolds			
	Objective : To show that communication is essential in resolving conflicts.			
	Instructions:			
	1. Pair up learners and ha	1. Pair up learners and have one student wear a blindfold while the other		
	-	student gives them instructions on how to draw a simple picture (e.g. a		
		or the blindfolded person will try to navigate		
	obstacle course with the	ne guidance of their partner who cannot to	uch them	
	or the obstacles.			
		ructions should only use verbal communication	ation and	
		ing or the blindfolded student.		
	3. After 5 minutes, have t	•		
		asking learners how communication was ir	nportant in	
	completing the task ar	nd what challenges they faced.		



Day 4 -

Today, you will hone your conflict resolution skills.

Time	Activity and Description
10 minutes	 Active Listening Practice: Review the importance of active listening and the steps involved Hand out cheat cards to each pair Have learners sit in pairs One person will speak for one minute while the other listens actively After one minute, switch roles and repeat Use the timer to keep track of the speaking time Reflection: Have the learners share their experiences with the class Discuss what they learned and how it felt to be listened to actively Emphasise the importance of active listening in building strong relationships with others
	 Cheat cards: Stop what you're doing and be fully present with the person speaking. Focus on what the person is saying by listening carefully and paying attention to their body language and tone of voice. Encourage the person to keep talking by using open-ended questions like "Tell me more" or "How did that make you feel?" Respond in a kind and compassionate way, showing that you understand their point of view.
30 minutes	 Conflict Characters: Objective: To teach learners problem-solving skills and conflict resolution through a fun and interactive game. Materials: Game dice, whiteboard/blackboard/flipchart, conflict resolution handout. Instructions: Use the whiteboard/blackboard/flipchart to create a list of different conflict resolution strategies that the learners suggest. Next, introduce the game dice. Each learner will roll the dice twice to determine their character and the conflict they will be working with. Once the learners have their characters and conflicts, they will pair up with a partner to create a story about the conflict. The learners will use the conflict resolution handout to find possible solutions to their conflict. They will take turns listening to each other's perspectives and working together to find a solution that works for both parties.

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	5. Encourage the learners to be creative and use their problem-solving skills to
	come up with unique solutions to their conflicts.
	6. Once the pairs have come up with a solution, have them share their story
	and solution with the larger group. Use this as an opportunity to discuss
	different approaches to conflict resolution and how we can work together to
	find solutions that work for everyone.
	7. To conclude the activity, have the learners reflect on what they learned
	about conflict resolution and identify strategies they can use in future conflicts.
	connicts.
	Here are some options for what could be written on the game dice for the activity:
1	First person is:
	1. a girl who is very funny
	a boy who doesn't like to do sports
	3. a person who has many interests
	4. a person who loves to sing
	5. a person who is always late
	6. a person who is very organized
9	Second person is:
	1. a girl who reads many books
	a boy who doesn't like to do sports
	3. a person who has many interests
	4. a person who loves to draw
	5. a person who is very talkative
	6. a person who is shy
N	What happened to them:
	1. they want the same thing
	one person got a better mark but they cheated
	they have different opinions on something important
	they accidentally broke something
	5. they both want to be friends with the same person
	6. they both want to play the same game during recess
	Here is an example of what could be included in the conflict resolution handout:
	Step 1. Calm down
-	Take a deep breath and try to calm down before trying to resolve the conflict. If you
1	need to, take a break and come back to the situation later.
9	Step 2. Reflect
-	Think about what happened and why there is a conflict. Write down what happened
ā	and how you feel about it.
9	Step 3. Listen to both sides



Give each person a chance to express their thoughts and feelings. Person 1 should explain what they believe happened and how they feel about it. Then, Person 2
should do the same.
Step 4. Find possible solutions
Brainstorm possible solutions to the conflict. What options are available to both
people? Discuss what would work best for both people and what wouldn't work.
Once a solution is agreed upon, try it out and see if it resolves the conflict. If it
doesn't, try another solution until the conflict is resolved.

Day 5-

Today, you will perform conflicts, employing all the techniques you have learned in conflict resolution.

Time	Activity and Description
20 minutes	 Prepare for the final event Now that you have learned what causes conflicts and how to resolve/ deal with conflicts, you need to work in groups to perform skits or plays to act out a scenario where there is a conflict: → Every skit/ play should present a different conflict. → In each skit, different outcomes should be represented:
	 Lose-Lose The conflict escalates and both people 'lose'.
	 Win-Lose The conflict is resolved with only one person winning and the other person losing.
	 Win-Win The conflict leads to an understanding between both people and results in both 'winning'.
	 → Make sure you show different reactions to each conflict (helpful and unhelpful) and ways to calm down. → Use 'I statements' in responding to conflicts. → Employ active listening.
	• You are going to encourage participation from the audience and ask them to discuss the conflict and what can be done to resolve it.

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	 Some of the plays could have an open end and you could have the audience members step into the play and act out the potential solutions. 	
	Request 2 volunteers to enact the 3 cases in front of the class and ask the class to share their own inputs too.	
	Learners can create invitation cards for their schoolmates, staff, and community members to watch their skits. Challenge learners to make the invites bi-lingual (Polish and Ukrainian).	
	 Criteria for skits: Creativity: The skits should be creative and original. Character Development: The characters in the skits should be well-developed and believable, and their actions and reactions should be consistent with their personalities. Dialogue: The dialogue in the skits should be natural and realistic, and it should reflect the way people actually speak in conflict situations. Collaboration: The skits should be a collaborative effort, and each member of the group should have a role to play. Timing: The skits should be between 5-10 minutes long, so that all groups have an opportunity to present their skits. Engagement: The skits should be engaging and entertaining, and they should hold the audience's attention throughout the performance. Use of Props: The skits should make effective use of props and costumes to enhance the performance and create a more immersive experience for the audience. 	
30 minutes	 Performing Conflicts: Start with sharing a brief summary of what you have learned during the week and how it has helped you change your approach to conflicts. Start the show! Encourage participation from the audience. Discuss the conflict and what could be done to resolve the situation. Suggest that audience members step into the play and act out the potential solutions. 	
	Collect feedback on: Performance: What went well and what could be improved? What could be better overall? 	
15 minutes	Reflection: This is your time to reflect on what we have learned and done during the past few days. Use the following questions as a guide for your response:	



- Which part was the most interesting?
 Which part was the most challenging or difficult?
- What are some of the questions that popped into your head, and you are still
thinking about and would like to explore?
 How do you plan to use what you have learned?

Additional enrichment activities:	 - Empathy scenario cards: Ask learners to make different scenarios on cards, based on real-life situations with a question related to how the conflict can be solved. Shuffle the cards and distribute them. Upon receiving a card, they should note down how to address the conflict at the back of it. Learners can collect their cards in their free time. - You can refer to activities mentioned in Level 3 of this project.
Modifications for simplification	If the learner is unable to write their own diary entries, then encourage them to verbally share what they would include in them.

Assessment criteria

By the end of the project, a majority of my students were able to:

- $\hfill\square$ Identify causes and effects of conflicts.
- \Box Practise different strategies to diffuse or resolve conflict situations.
- □ Understand empathy through imagining and describing the feelings and motivations of people in challenging situations.
- \Box Explore different perspectives to understand an issue better.
- \Box Write a diary entry from a different perspective.
- \Box Perform a skit or play for t