



## Making Peace: Teaching Children How To Handle Conflict

- **What is conflict?**
- **Why do children have conflicts?**
- **What to do to decrease conflict**
  1. **Create an emotionally safe classroom**
  2. **Understand brain development**
  3. **What is Positive Effective Communication?**
  4. **Avoid comparisons, both positive and negative**
  5. **Treat them uniquely**
  6. **Avoid labels**
  7. **Help children learn to communicate feelings appropriately**
- **Teaching children to manage conflict**
  1. **Create “calm down spot” together**
  2. **If conflict is physical or dangerous, separate and go to calm down spot**
  3. **Stay out of age appropriate bickering**
  4. **If you are going to teach a “new way”, approach quickly; get on their eye level**
  5. **Acknowledge both childrens’ feelings**
  6. **Gather information**
  7. **Restate problem to check for your understanding**
  8. **Refrain from taking sides**
  9. **Ask the children for solutions**
  10. **Give follow up help like suggestions, solutions and support**
  11. **Avoid using “vague terms”; i.e. “be nice”, “be good”, “share”**
  12. **Avoid commanding, demanding, criticizing or belittling**
  13. **Recognize and comment on their efforts, strategies and their improvements**

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