ACTIVITY 1

CONFLICT CRUSHERS

SKILL/S COVERED: Conflict management
APPROXIMATE TIME NEEDED: 40 minutes
AGE GROUP: 10-13 years old

BRIEF INTRODUCTION
This activity is designed to help students develop skills in managing conflicts constructively. Through role-playing and group discussions, students will learn to identify types of conflicts, understand different perspectives, and apply strategies for resolving disagreements amicably.

AUTHOR OF THE TOOL/EXERCISE WITH REFERENCING LINK
Original activity created by “Prof. Ivan Apostolov” high school.

GOAL
To enhance students’ abilities to manage conflicts by recognizing different types of conflicts, understanding various perspectives, and practising conflict resolution strategies in a supportive environment.

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
Suitable for the whole class; students work in small groups and present to the entire group.

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NECESSARY MATERIALS

- Conflict scenario cards (pre-written scenarios of common conflicts)
- Notecards or paper for notes
- Timer or stopwatch
- Whiteboard and markers

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

INSTRUCTIONS

1. **Introduction to Conflict Management:**
   - Begin by discussing what conflict is and why it's important to manage it effectively.
   - Explain the different types of conflicts (e.g., interpersonal, group, internal) and common causes (e.g., misunderstandings, differing values).
2. **Preparation Phase:**
   - Divide students into small groups of 3-4 members.
   - Give each group a conflict scenario card. Examples of scenarios:
     - Two friends arguing over a game rule.
     - A group project where one member isn't contributing.
     - Siblings fighting over shared space at home.
   - Allow groups 10-15 minutes to discuss their scenario, identify the type of conflict, and brainstorm potential resolution strategies.
3. **Role-Playing Activity:**
   - Each group takes turns role-playing their scenario in front of the class.
   - After each role-play, the class discusses the conflict, and what they observed, and suggests additional resolution strategies.
   - Use a timer to ensure each group has enough time but keeps to the schedule.

DEBRIEFING QUESTIONS

Facilitate a group discussion with the following questions:

1. What types of conflicts did you observe in the scenarios?
2. How did it feel to role-play and watch others handle conflicts?
3. What strategies were effective in resolving the conflicts?
4. How can you apply these conflict management skills in real-life situations?

OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

- Encourage students to be respectful and supportive during the role-playing and discussions.
- Remind students that conflict is a normal part of life and learning to manage it effectively is a valuable skill.
- Consider having a follow-up activity where students reflect on a real conflict they experienced and how they could use the strategies learned to handle it better.
- This activity not only helps students understand and manage conflicts but also fosters empathy and cooperation in a safe and structured environment.

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