



### Yearlong Objectives

- Express oneself in words and art.
- Work as an ensemble.
- Understand the power and importance of uniqueness.

### Essential Questions

- What is conflict?
- What are some important things to keep in mind when dealing with a conflict?
- How can thinking strategies improve an outcome to a conflict?

### Lesson Objectives

- Identify strategies that can be used to deal with conflicts.
- Explain the importance of having conflicts end in Win-Win outcomes.
- Create a collaborative wheel of strategies using watercolors.

### National Arts Standards

- Formulate an artistic investigation of personally relevant content for creating art. (VA:Cr1.2.6a)
- Design or redesign objects, places, or systems that meet the identified needs of diverse users. (VA:CR2.3.6a)
- Contribute ideas and accept and incorporate the ideas of others in preparing or devising drama/theatre work. (TH:Cr2-6.b)



### Materials needed

Parchment paper cut into 8 large wedges, index card sized watercolor paper, watercolors, paintbrushes, water



### Time needed

90 minutes



### Vocabulary for this lesson

Social-Emotional: *conflict, resolution, unique*  
 Visual Arts: *watercolor, abstract, collaboration*  
 Theatre: *ensemble, setting, character*



### Warm-Up Phase (15 minutes)

Circle: Open-ended question: *Have you ever wanted a pet? What kind of pet did you want?*  
 Optional follow-up question: *How are you feeling right now? Use an emotion word and explain why.*  
 Team-building game: Zip Zap Zop, Level 5 (see [Team-Building Games](#))



## I Do/ We Do (20 minutes)

### Explicitly Teach

- Access prior knowledge. Have students brainstorm all they know about conflict and empathy. Make a list on the board.
- Introduce new concept: Steps for *conflict resolution*. *We know there are many conflict outcomes. Really, though, it's important that conflicts end in Win-Win outcomes as much as possible. There are some steps that we can all take to ensure that happens.*
- Have students brainstorm their own ideas on the board about positive ways to go about dealing with conflicts, and things to remember when engaged in a conflict. If a student suggests something inappropriate, have students discuss the option, and figure out whether that tactic would result in a Win-Win outcome.
- Make sure the following things to keep in mind are all on the board:
  - Take time to cool off.
  - Think about the person as a person. (Empathize.)
  - State your mind clearly and calmly.
  - Try to understand what the other person is saying, and listen carefully.
  - Find something you can agree about.
  - Ask for and give feedback on major points.
  - Explain how you are feeling.
  - Stay present.
  - Never assume what the other person is thinking.
- There may be other things on this list. It should just be a list of things to keep in mind when dealing with a one-on-one conflict. However, you should pick eight strategies as a class that you feel are most important.
- Introduce art concept: *watercolor*. *Today we'll be illustrating some of these tips and strategies in watercolors, but we'll be using our collective drawings to create a class-sized conflict resolution wheel.*

### Keep in Mind

- Go over norms for an art space. *Art space needs to be safe and calm. What needs to happen to ensure everyone feels that way?*
- Talk about collaborative work. *It can be hard to part with work you are proud of. What happens if you don't want to share your work with the group?*



## You Do (55 minutes)

### The project, step-by-step

- The teacher should have created a larger version of the attached pie shapes. Cutting the pie wedges out of parchment paper is a good way to make them big enough.
- Take an index card sized sheet of watercolor paper to begin with.
- Select a strategy that would be useful in dealing with a conflict.
- Create an illustration with watercolors that shows the strategy.
- When your illustration is complete, attach it to the wheel wedge that corresponds with the strategy you illustrated.
- When all wheel wedges have several examples, tape them together to create one large wheel of strategies.

**Extensions:** Create an illustration for every strategy. Conversational extension: Is a compromise always a Win-Win? When might it be a Win-Lose?

**Closure:** Have students role-play using the different strategies with simple conflict examples.

**Optional Writing Prompt:** What strategy do you feel you'll be most likely to use? Why?

