



Resolving conflicts – mediation in the group

AT A GLANCE



Place

Indoors, circle of chairs



Key idea

Recognising conflicts, addressing them and mediating fairly as a leader



Effort

Materials 10 min · Preparation 20 min



90 minutes



6–16 Scouts



16+ years



with role plays



Materials

- ☐ role cards with three conflict situations from everyday group life
- ☐ flip chart or large paper
- ☐ cards and pens
- ☐ Bible (Matthew 18:15)



Schedule

0–15'	Opening – Conflict barometer: how do you react in an argument – attack, withdraw or talk? Everyone stands on a line.
15–35'	Tool – Four steps of mediation: agree the rules, both tell their story, name feelings and needs, find a shared solution.
35–70'	Role plays – In threes: two argue, one person mediates. Then swap roles.
70–80'	Devotion – Matthew 18:15: Jesus shows a way – talk face to face first, not about others.
80–90'	Closing – What will I take into my role as a leader?



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How it works – simply explained

- 1 Agree the rules: let each other finish, no insults, both want a solution.
- 2 Both tell their side in turn – the mediator sums up.
- 3 Name feelings and needs: "You were angry because fairness matters to you."
- 4 Collect solutions together and choose one both can live with.
- 5 Check back later whether the solution works.

 **Example:** "I hear that you felt left out when the tent was put up without you. What would you have wished for?"

Safety

- Do not use real, current conflicts from the group in the role plays.
- Anyone who wants to step out may do so.
- Violence, bullying or boundary violations fall under the safeguarding policy – they are not a case for peer mediation.

Variations

- Write conflict rules for your own group together.
- Work with anonymised case studies from the last camp.

Something to think about

Who should you really have a face-to-face talk with?