

Peer Mediation Basics

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

The student will learn the basic role of a neutral mediator and practice mediating a mock conflict between two other parties.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Notebook paper
- Pencil
- 2 partners (or use puppets/stuffed animals to represent two disagreeing characters if partners aren't available)

HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

1. Learn the mediator's basic job: stay neutral (don't take sides), let each person speak without interrupting, help both people find common ground, and never force a solution.
2. Set up a mock conflict between two 'parties' (two family members, or two stuffed animals/puppets you voice yourself) over a simple made-up disagreement.
3. Acting as the neutral mediator, let each side explain their view without interruption while you take short notes.
4. Ask each side a clarifying question, then guide them toward identifying at least one thing they agree on.
5. Help the two sides propose and agree on one small compromise, and write the agreed solution down as a simple 'agreement' on notebook paper.

QUESTIONS

1. What are the mediator's 3 basic rules that you followed?

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2. What was the mock conflict about, and what did each side want?

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3. What common ground did you help the two sides find?
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4. Why is it important for a mediator to stay neutral instead of picking a side?
