




Exploring Conflict Responses

For each scenario, **pause and ponder** how you would respond. Put an X in the column showing which conflict response you would use, whether shark, turtle, or owl. There are no right or wrong answers. It is important for you to think only about your own answer.

	Shark 	Turtle 	Owl 
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			

Scenarios:

1. You and your friend both want to be first in line for recess, so you race to the door. Your friend gets there first and says, "Ha, ha, I beat you!" What would you do if this happened to you? Would you be a shark and say, "You cheated! That's why you're first in line"? Would you be a turtle, shrug your shoulders, and go to the back of the line? Or would you be an owl and say, "You can be first this time, but can we agree that it's my turn next time to lead the class to recess?"
2. You got a new soccer ball for your birthday, and your friend asked to play with it during recess. You thought he was going to play soccer with you, but instead he took your ball and won't let you play. What would you do if this happened to you? Would you be a shark, raise your voice, and yell, "I don't want to play soccer with you anyway, and you aren't my friend"? Would you be a turtle and walk away from the soccer game even though you really wanted to play? Or would you be an owl and say, "I'll let you finish playing the game with my ball, but if you won't share it during the next recess, I will leave it inside"?
3. You really wanted to work at the art center first because you love drawing, but another student was already working there, and your teacher asked you to go to the reading center instead. What would you do if this happened to you? Would you be a shark and sigh loudly as you stomped over to the reading center? Would you be a turtle and walk away without explaining why you wanted to go to the art center? Or would you be an owl and go to the reading center but ask the teacher if you could be next at the art center?
4. You and your friend are working at the math center, but you are doing all the work while your friend copies your answers. You are feeling really frustrated. What would you do if this happened to you? Would you be a shark and yell at your friend for not doing their share? Would you be a turtle, avoid saying anything to your friend, and just do all the work yourself? Or would you be an owl and say to your friend, "Could we please divide the work so that each person does their share? I feel frustrated when I do all the work myself"?
5. You and your sister are in a disagreement about whose turn it is to take out the trash. She tells you, "I have taken the trash out more than you! You never do your share!" This isn't true and upsets you. What would you do if this happened to you? Would you be a shark and yell back, "I do my share of the chores! You're a liar"? Would you be a turtle, ignore your sister, and hope she calms down later? Or would you be an owl and say, "I think we are both frustrated. Let's come up with a schedule we can post on the fridge so we know whose turn it is"?
6. You and your friend both want to swing during recess. You start arguing over whose turn it is, and you both say some hurtful things to each other. What would you do if this happened to you? Would you be a shark and continue to argue with your friend until you got the swing? Would you be a turtle and walk away even though you really wanted to swing? Or would you be an owl and say, "We both like to swing. How about we take turns?"
7. Your friend won't talk to you, and you don't know why. When you try to talk to her, she looks away and shrugs her shoulders. You feel hurt that she is treating you this way. What would you do if this happened to you? Would you be a shark, get in her face, and say, "What's your problem?" Would you be a turtle, avoid saying anything, and think, "Maybe she'll talk to me tomorrow"? Or would you be an owl and say, "I don't understand why you won't talk to me, and I feel hurt. Could we please talk?"
8. An older kid is making fun of you for not being able to tie your shoes, and you tell him to mind his own business. Now he's yelling at you for being rude. What would you do if this happened to you? Would you be a shark and yell back, "Leave me alone. You're a jerk"? Would you be a turtle and run away from the older kid? Or would you be an owl and say, "I don't want to argue anymore. It's a dumb argument anyway, and it's wasting our time"?

9. Your friend has been hanging around another group of friends instead of you. When you ask her to come over after school, she says she has plans with her real friends. What would you do if this happened to you? Would you be a shark and shout, “You aren’t my real friend either”? Would you be a turtle and avoid saying anything? Or would you be an owl and say to your friend, “We have been friends for a long time, and I care about you. Could we please talk?”
10. Your friend spilt water on your paper, and now you have to start over on writing your paragraph. What would you do if this happened to you? Would you be a shark and yell, “You better help me redo this, or I’ll spill water on your paper too”? Would you be a turtle and start over without saying anything? Or would you be an owl and say, “I know that it was an accident, but now I feel nervous about getting my paragraph done. If you clean up the mess, it will give me more time to redo this”?