

Conflict Resolution



The greasers and socs could use some conflict resolution strategies. The only way they solve their problems is through violence. They don't know any other way. On his deathbed, Johnny tries to convince his friends that fighting is "useless" and "no good."

Take a look at the general conflict resolution strategies below. Could any of the ideas help Ponyboy and his friends deal with their conflict in a non-violent way?

Think about some of the conflicts you personally face in school. Could any of the ideas help you?

- Be a good listener.
- Maintain eye contact.
- Take your turn in sharing your perspective of the issues.
- Wait your turn before speaking. Do not interrupt.
- Put yourself in the other person's shoes.
- If you are angry, cool off before discussing the issue.
- Do not let emotions get in the way.
- Compromise.
- Think of the other person's feelings.
- Express your needs.
- Think before you speak.
- Watch how you phrase your words. Make positive, not negative, statements.

Write about a situation you have faced recently at school where conflict resolution strategies could have made the situation better. Describe the situation in detail and then discuss which strategy you could have used to diffuse the conflict. _____
