



## Learning About Conflict and Compromise

### *The Day No One Played Together* by Donalisa Helsley

In today's world, it is very important for children and adults alike to learn the art of compromise. In the book *The Day No One Played Together*, sisters Jady and Genesis didn't feel like there was anything fun to do because neither of them could agree about what they should be doing. Their conflict about what to do had them both doing nothing. They were in a lose/lose situation. Think about times when you might have wanted to play one thing... maybe hide-and-seek and your friend or sibling wanted to play something different... maybe they wanted to color. Read or \*listen to the story (\* Check YOUTUBE for a read-aloud for this book) and then learn about the art of compromise.

1. In the beginning of the book, Genesis had a solution to the problem of whose game the girls should play first. She said, "So, we play my game first and then we play yours." After some arguing, Jady said, "Fine, I'm not playing either!" What did each sister want? Did either sister get what she wanted? Why or why not?
2. It has been challenging for all of us to spend so much time at home during the pandemic. Can you think of a time when what happened between Genesis and Jady happened between you and a sibling, or you and a friend, or you and an adult? Be prepared to share. How was this conflict resolved?
4. When you are faced with a conflict, you can resolve it with three different kinds of solutions; that is, both sides can get something they want (a WIN/WIN RESOLUTION); only one side gets what he/she wants (a WIN/LOSE RESOLUTION); or neither side gets what he/she wants (a LOSE/LOSE RESOLUTION). Below is a scene in which there is a conflict. You get to resolve the conflict. Write your resolution line at the end. Then decide if it is a WIN/WIN, WIN/LOSE, or LOSE/LOSE RESOLUTION

*Characters:* Two students in elementary school

*Setting:* School playground

*Conflict:* There is only one swing that is available and two kids race toward it at the very same time.

**Kid #1:** I want to swing.

**Kid #2:** I want to swing too.

**Kid #1:** Well, I was here first.

**Kid #2:** No, I got here first.

**Kid #1:** Yes, but I am bigger and stronger than you.

**Kid #2:** If you pull the swing away from me, I will tell the Principal that you hurt me and you will be suspended.

**Kid #1:** I don't care.

**Kid #2:** Ok. (Walks toward an adult who is assigned to the playground.)

**Kid #1:** Don't tell on me.

**Kid #2:** I'll tell on you if you don't let me swing!!

**Kid #1:** Hey, the bell is about to ring, and recess will be over. I want to swing too.

**Kid #2:**

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*\*Your job is to give Kid #2 the words that will lead to a WIN/WIN Resolution. First ask yourself what each kid wants. Then think of how they can resolve their conflict by having each Kid get something that he/she wants.*