

Solving Disagreements

Week 29 • Thursday • Big Arguments in My Life

Reading Time

The Civil War happened when a huge disagreement could not be solved with words. Brothers fought brothers, and hundreds of thousands of people were hurt. War is the saddest way to settle an argument.

You have disagreements too — maybe with a sibling over a toy, or a friend over game rules. Your arguments are much smaller, but the lesson is the same: it is always better to solve problems with words than with fighting.

Good problem-solvers listen to the other side, stay calm, take turns talking, and look for a fair answer. Sometimes they ask a grown-up for help. When both sides really listen, most arguments can end in peace instead of fighting.

Reading Questions

1. Why did the Civil War happen?

2. What is the saddest way to settle an argument?

3. Name two things good problem-solvers do.

Vocabulary Grid

Write what each word means in your own words.

disagreement

listen

calm

fair

peace

solve

Peaceful or Not?

Write YES if it is a peaceful way to solve an argument, or NO if it is not.

Action	YES or NO
Listen to the other person's side.	
Yell until you get your way.	
Take turns talking calmly.	
Grab the toy and run away.	
Look for an answer that is fair to both.	
Ask a grown-up for help.	

My Peace Plan

Think of a real disagreement you have had — with a sibling, friend, or classmate. Fill in your peace plan below.

Question	My answer
What was the disagreement about?	
What did each side want?	
How was it solved (or how could it be)?	
What would you do differently next time?	

Think About It

1. What do you think the North and South could have done differently before the war?

2. Why is listening the most important part of solving a disagreement?

Fill in the Blanks

words listen calm fair grown-up peace

1. It is better to solve problems with _____.
2. Good problem-solvers _____ to the other side.
3. Stay _____ when you disagree.
4. Look for an answer that is _____.
5. You can ask a _____ for help.
6. Most arguments can end in _____.

Review

I learned...	Circle one
Why words beat fighting	YES / NOT YET
Steps for solving disagreements	YES / NOT YET
I made my own peace plan	YES / NOT YET