



# SETTLING ARGUMENTS FOR GOOD!



This is a Public Service brought to you by [EduDesigns.org](http://EduDesigns.org), a Non Profit Organization

# SETTLING ARGUMENTS - FOR GOOD!

*When children are taught to calmly express themselves in a 'safe' environment, and to listen patiently as they give others the same courtesy, it will go a long way to growing them into more thoughtful adults who will be able to work out their problems peacefully! This simple technique called **Resolve or Report**\* helps them learn how!*

**THE STRATEGY:** **Resolve or Report** is a method that teaches kids how to work out their differences. By giving them choices, they are empowered and not left feeling helpless.

**The PROCESS:** When children have an argument or fight, take them aside. Tell them that this is not acceptable behavior and that we must learn to work our our problems peacefully. Give them a **CHOICE:** Do they want to **Resolve** it between them peacefully? Or do they need to **Report** it to an adult to help referee? If they choose the **RESOLVE** option, they will agree to try to **resolve** the matter between one another. If they cannot do it on their own they can choose to **REPORT** it to an adult to help facilitate.

**With EITHER OPTION, they agree to FOLLOW THESE RULES:**

## 1: TAKE TURNS TALKING and LISTENING

They will each get a chance to tell their side of the story. *Choose who talks first by tossing a coin (heads or tails) or throwing dice (the highest number goes first), or something similar.*

**2- TALK CALMLY** when it's **your** turn, and **LISTEN POLITELY** when it's the **other person's** turn to talk.

**3- When it's YOUR** turn, make "I", not "YOU" Statements:

—> For instance, "I felt this when you did that "

**4- SHARE** these things:

1. **How YOU** felt
2. **What YOU** think **happened**
3. What **YOU** **could have done differently**
4. How you think the **OTHER** person felt
5. What you feel **they could have done differently**

This technique helps them to see each other's perspective, making it easier to solve the disagreement. If they cannot

**RESOLVE** the issue between them by themselves, they can choose to **REPORT** their side of the story to an adult who can assist in helping them see the other person's point of view.

**Resolve or Report** is a way to give kids an understanding that they have **options** to work things out. Either by **resolving** issues between them -or- asking that another sit with them while they each take a turn **reporting** their story. Giving children a **choice** in resolving their own problems can immediately de-escalate behavior and **decrease** incidents in the future.



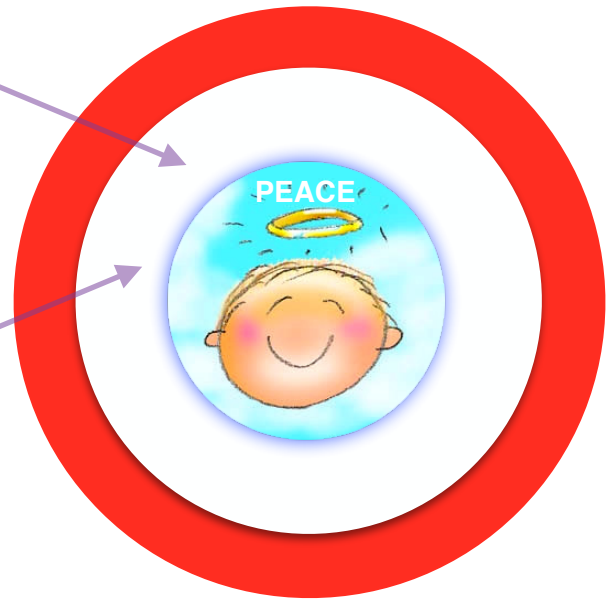
## STAY ON TARGET - For **GOOD!**

Everyone wants to think they are right. Right?

Or do we just want to be the only one who is right?

**The only way** to really be 'on target' for **good** is to **AIM** for what is **really** right. For **everyone**.

And that means **PEACE** between us.



## The only problem is. . .

**We** may be aiming for peace, but the other person may not **want** peace. **They** may **want** to fight.

Fighting and arguing are like a fire. Imagine that our **Self** is like the **house** we live in.

## What do people **DO** to protect a house from fire?

One way is to create a 'fire break' - an area around it, cleared of all debris that would ignite.

If a fire should start **outside** that area, it will stop when it gets to the 'fire break', and will not get close enough to burn the house down.



In the same way, the technique called "**Resolve or Report**" creates a safe area around both parties, in which they can express themselves without fear of getting 'burned'.



Learn more tips to develop good character in kids **HERE!**

\*The technique of 'Resolve and Report' is also shared on [thewatsoninstitute.org](http://thewatsoninstitute.org)