

This activity looks at how we respond to conflict. Using animals to introduce various styles of response, it explores the limitations of avoidance, accommodation and counter-violence as ways of dealing with or resolving conflict. Jesus' way is different.

Prepare Print off the *Animal Conflict Cards* and display them around the room:
www.paxchristi.org.uk/elements

Invite the young people to wander around the room, read what the animal represents and choose which one reflects their most common response to conflict.

Explore Ask them to explain to those nearby why they have chosen the one they have before sharing this with the whole group.

What are the advantages of your style of response?
What are the disadvantages?

Is your method likely to solve the problem? Why?

Another Way Ask the young people in small groups to come up with a strategy about how they would resolve conflict and then design a poster promoting their ideas. Their strategy should:

- 1/ Be practical.
- 2/ Use no more than three words.
- 3/ Help to avoid violence but not avoid the problem.

The groups are likely to use words such as listen, compromise, love, patience. These words are crucial tools in nonviolence, the strategy of Christ.

See *Love Your Enemies* and *Turn the Other Cheek* cards for more on the nonviolence of Christ.