

HOW TO HAVE A RESTORATIVE CONVERSATION

1. OPEN THE LINES OF COMMUNICATION.

- Choose a good time and a comfortable place free of distractions.
- Obtain agreement about having a conversation – not about blaming, punishing, or judging.

2. ALLOW EVERYONE TO EXPLAIN THE SITUATION FROM THEIR PERSPECTIVE.

- What happened? What was going on for you at the time? What thoughts/feelings were you having?
- It sounds like you felt _____. Is that right?
- What choices did you make that led up to this happening?
- What role do you think you played in this situation? What part was your responsibility?
- If you could go back and do something differently, what would you do?

3. IDENTIFY THE IMPACT.

- What have you been thinking about since this happened? How have you been feeling since?
- How did this affect you?
- Who else do you think has been affected/upset/ hurt by your actions? In what way?
- When I heard/saw _____, I felt _____ because I _____.
- When you look back, how do you feel about the situation now?

4. ADDRESS NEEDS AND REPAIR HARM.

- What can you do to help make things better/fix this/make things right?
- If you were _____, what do you think you would need?
- What do you need to help you do that?
- What end result would you like to see?
- What could you do to make sure this doesn't happen again?
- How could you have approached the situation differently? What would you do differently in the future?

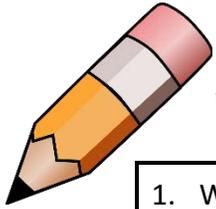
5. CREATE A VERBAL OR WRITTEN AGREEMENT.

- Based on our conversation, I heard that you will _____. I will also _____.
- Does that seem like something you can agree on?
- Let's check in again in _____ to see how everything is going.

RESTORATIVE CONVERSATIONS WITH KIDS

1. What happened?
2. What were you thinking or feeling at the time?
3. What have you been thinking or feeling about it since then?
4. Who do you think was affected? How were they affected?
5. What do you need to do to make things right?

-Adapted from *Chicago Public Schools Restorative Guide and Toolkit*, www.cps.edu



Write or draw your answers to the questions below:



1. What happened?

2. Who was affected? How did they feel?



3. What could I have done differently?

4. What can I do to make things right?

