

Peer Mediation Scenarios

Godzilla Style- 3rd Grade

The Situation: George was building a tower out of blocks when a new kid, Winston, knocked it over. So later at lunch, George wouldn't let Winston play four-square with him.

George's Story: I was building a block tower when the new kid Winston knocked it all over, roaring like a dinosaur or something. So when he wanted to play four-square with me, I said he couldn't, because I didn't want to play with someone who ruined my tower.

George's Goal: I want him to say sorry for knocking over my block tower; I thought it was really mean.

Winston's Story: I just wanted to make a good impression on George, because I wanted to make a new friend, so I thought it would make him laugh if I knocked over his tower all Godzilla style. But then he got mad at me. So I tried playing with him at lunch, but he wouldn't let me.

Winston's Goal: I want him to apologize for not letting me play with him!

The Swing Fight- 3rd Grade

The Situation: Jennifer and Darlene were fighting over the swing set at the playground during recess. Darlene threw sand at Jennifer, who was on the swing, and they began yelling at each other. The teacher stopped the fight and brought them both to peer mediation.

Jennifer's Story: Darlene and I both got out of class and raced to the swings at the same time. I beat her to the swing fair and square. I may have pulled on her hair or something, but it was really gentle. Then she threw sand at me when I got on the swing, and I got mad because I got there first.

Jennifer's Goal: I want Darlene to apologize for throwing sand at me. I barely touched her hair; it didn't do anything. She's just mad because she lost.

The Swing Fight, cont'd

Darlene's Story: We raced to the swing set but Jennifer cheated and pulled my hair really hard. It hurt a lot, so she got there first. She was laughing, and so I threw some sand at her. It was just a little bit.

Darlene's Goal: I want her to say sorry for yanking my hair and cheating. I should get the swing next time.

It Means He Likes You!- 3rd Grade

The Situation: Robert has been teasing Joyce at recess repeatedly. Joyce came into the office sobbing, and both have been sent to peer mediation.

Joyce's Story: Every recess Robert always calls me names and makes faces at me. He's being so mean, I don't know why. My friends said it just means he likes me, so I didn't say anything, but today he was extra mean and made me cry.

Joyce's Goal: I just want him to stop teasing me.

Robert's Story: When my friends found out I liked her... and you can't tell her I said that! Well, they started making fun of me. So I started teasing her so they would stop. I would call her names and then they would think I didn't like her.

Robert's Goal: I didn't mean to hurt her feelings. I just wanted my friends to stop teasing me...

Sleepover vs. Pool Party- 3rd Grade

The Situation: Julie and Emma have been caught fighting at school, so both have been brought to peer mediation to sort out the issue.

Julie's Story: I invited Emma to a sleepover. But Sasha also invited her over to a pool party after I had already invited Emma. Emma chose to go to the pool party. She said it was because she wanted to swim, but I think she just likes Sasha more than me.

Julie's Goal: I don't want Emma to go over to Sasha's anymore; it was really mean to not come to my party. She should apologize.

Emma's Story: Julie invited me to her sleepover, but then Sasha invited me to her pool party on the same day. I really wanted to go to the sleepover, but I had swimming lessons the next day and I wanted to practice. If I didn't do well I would be kicked out of the swim class! It's not that I don't like Julie; I still want to be friends with her.

Emma's Goal: I want her to know I'm still friends with her. I just had to practice for my swim meet!

Jumprope Queen- 4th Grade

The Situation: Rosalie always uses the jumprope during recess with her friends, and everyone in school knows she is the best. Today, Adam got to the rope first, and wanted to use it to mark a line on the ground to play dodgeball with his friends. The two got into a fight over the rope and were sent to peer mediation.

Rosalie's Story: My friends and I always use the jumprope at recess, and anybody who wants to play with us can join. But today Adam ran to the jumprope first and used it as a line for a dodgeball game. We didn't have anything to play with. He could've played with something else, but he just took the jumprope to be mean!

Rosalie's Goal: He shouldn't be allowed to take the jumprope; we always use it so it should go to us. He has so many other things to play with!

Adam's Story: Our class just got brand new foam balls, and me and my friends really wanted to play dodgeball at recess. We ran out and got the balls, but we needed a line on the ground, so we grabbed the jumprope. Rosalie wasn't even there yet, plus she and her friends always take it! So we used it, and then she came over and started yelling at us, saying it was her jumprope!

Adam's Goal: She always gets the jumprope, but it doesn't belong to her. We got there first, fair and square. If she doesn't have anything to play with, it's not my fault.

Insult Wars- 4th Grade

The Situation: John and Timmy almost got in a fight with one another after exchanging hurtful insults. A teacher brought them to peer mediation to resolve what happened.

John's Story: My friends and I always joke with each other, and we never take it seriously. The other day I made the same jokes to Timmy, and I thought he'd take them lightly, but he got really angry. The next day, he and his friends came up to me and started saying really mean things, not like the jokes I was saying. So I teased him back, and he got super angry and started kicking dirt at me, but by then a teacher had separated us.

John's Goal: Timmy needs to not be so mean and see that I was just making jokes. Just because I joke around doesn't mean he can say really rude things to me.

Timmy's Story: This kid in my class, John, is always making jokes about everyone, but today decided to pick on me for the first time. He said a lot of things that made me really uncomfortable and embarrassed. So when I talked to my friends about it, they said we should all go make fun of him to show him how it feels. When we did, he started saying even worse things about me, so I started kicking dirt at him when a teacher separated us.

Timmy's Goal: He should apologize for making fun of me in the first place. He just got even meaner when I showed him what it felt like!

The Fastest Runner- 5th Grade

The Situation: Diana and Evan are good friends, and also the two fastest runners in their class. During the Presidential Fitness Test they got extremely competitive, and Diana ended up beating Evan by a few seconds. She made fun of him for losing, and he didn't reply. Later on at lunch, he wouldn't let her play handball with him and his friends, and made fun of her. She was later found crying in the bathroom, and both were sent to peer mediation.

Diana's Story: After I beat him at the test, I was just really happy, and I was joking around with him. But when I asked to play handball with him at lunch, they threw the ball over my head, and Evan called me "a boy" because I ran so fast. He is one of my only friends, so I didn't have anyone else to play with at lunch.

Diana's Goal: I want him to apologize for being mean to me, and to let me play handball

with him at lunch.

The Fastest Runner, cont'd

Evan's Story: After she found out she beat me, she kept calling me a "slow poke" in front of everyone. It was so humiliating, and I could see it in her face she wasn't joking around. So at lunch she wanted to play handball with us. My friends threw the ball over her head, and I called her a "boy." I don't see how that's mean because she runs as fast as one.

Evan's Goal: She should apologize for embarrassing me in front of everyone, and making fun of me for being slower than her.

Cubby Notes- 5th Grade

The Situation: Tommy reported that he had found mean notes in his cubby, and he's sure that Michael wrote them. Another student saw Michael writing something near the cubby. Tommy and Michael have been brought to peer mediation to resolve the conflict.

Michael's Story: I didn't put any mean notes in Tommy's cubby. Ever since we got into a fight a while ago, he's been really mean to me. The other day he didn't invite me to his birthday party, and I thought we were best friends. Now he thinks I've been writing mean things!

Michael's Goal: Tommy has to stop being mean to me and stop saying I wrote the notes when I didn't! He's just being mean to me because we got into a fight.

Tommy's Story: Michael and I got into a fight, and I don't even remember what it was about. So I didn't invite him to my party. Now I found mean notes in my cubby. I'm pretty sure he's been writing them just because he didn't get invited.

Tommy's Goal: I want him to admit he's been writing mean notes and to stop doing it. I didn't invite him because we got into a fight!

Broken Pencil- 5th Grade

The Situation: Mark and Paul have recently disrupted class with an argument. Mark allegedly broke Paul's pencil, while Paul denies this. This was the last straw for the teacher, and both have been sent to peer mediation.

Mark's Story: At lunch I found out Paul purposefully didn't invite me to his party, and when I told my friends about it, he started giving me a hard time. Then, in class, he took my pencil and broke it in half, and it was the only one I had for class! It was the last straw. I pushed all the stuff off his desk, and then he jumped up and yelled in my face.
Mark's Goal: I want him to apologize for breaking my pencil. I think he should also get me a new pencil, seeing it was my only one.

Paul's Story: I heard Mark was telling his friends that I excluded him from my party on purpose, but I thought he was busy that day. I had told him that at lunch. And then in class, I borrowed his pencil for a second, and when I gave it back, he dropped it and it broke in half. Then he pushed all the stuff off my desk, so I yelled at him.

Paul's Goal: He should stop getting mad at me and apologize for shoving all the stuff off my desk. I didn't exclude him purposefully or break his pencil!

Dodgeball Champion- 5th Grade

The Situation: In a very competitive round of dodgeball, class champion Brent was beaten by Nancy, the first time he was ever beaten. He claimed she cheated, and hit her in the face with a ball. Both were immediately sent to peer mediation when a fight broke out.

Brent's Story: I've been the all time winner of every dodgeball game we've played. But this time, I lost to Nancy because she obviously cheated! When I threw my ball, it grazed her leg! I walked towards her saying she was out and then she pegged me! It was so unfair! So I picked up a ball and got her right in the face for cheating.

Brent's Goal: All of my friends agree it hit her, so I should've been the champion again! The teacher just said it missed because she just wanted Nancy to win. She deserved that ball for cheating.

Nancy's Story: I dodged the ball that Brent said had "grazed my leg," fair and square, and the teacher even saw that I did. So I pegged Brent right back, and I finally won. He's always been bragging about being the champion. But then, of course all of his friends said I had cheated, because they all didn't want Brent to be beaten by a girl, and that's when he threw the ball right at my face!

Nancy's Goal: He's just sore he was beaten by me. The teacher saw that it missed, and so I got him right back. He had no right to hit me in the face afterwards; he should definitely get in trouble for that.

The Diary Incident- 6th Grade

The Situation: Jenna and Mark got into a verbal fight after school.

Mark's Story: After school ended, I was writing in my journal like I always do when Jenna and her friends came up to me. I don't know if she was trying to impress her friends or something, but she called my journal a diary, and said how no boys have one. I got really mad and called her mean and stupid because she was making fun of me!

Mark's Goal: She should say she's sorry. Kids are always making fun of me for my journal, but it really hurt when she said it was a diary and wasn't for boys.

Jenna's Story: It was after school, and I was with my two friends. We saw Mark sitting by a tree, and I wanted to talk to him because he's always alone. I mentioned that it was funny that he always keeps this diary with him, and that I didn't know any boys that did. But he got really mad and said I was stupid and mean! It really hurt, especially in front of my friends.

Jenna's Goal: He should apologize. I was just trying to be nice and talk to him, because he was all alone.

Taking the Credit- 6th Grade

The Situation: James erased Sarah's name from a school project. Sarah claims he didn't help at all, so she let him do the rest, while James claims she dumped the entire rest of the project on him, and didn't deserve credit.

Sarah's Story: In English, James and I decided to work together on writing a story for a project. When we started working, all he did was watch me, and I was doing all the work

the whole time! He just stood there uselessly, so I said he had to finish up the rest to make it even. But when he turned in the paper, he had erased my name from the paper, so I didn't get any credit!

Sarah's Goal: I need to credit on that project, just as much as him. He should get in trouble for trying to take all the credit for our project when I did so much work!

James' Story: Sarah and I had to write a story for an English project. When we started working, she said she had to be the one to write it down because she had better handwriting. I was helping out and giving her ideas as she was writing, because I wasn't allowed to write, and after a while she got really mad and said she was doing all the work, and dumped the entire project on me to finish! So I finished up the project, and erased her name from it because she was too lazy to finish it with me!

James' Goal: I still don't think she should get credit for the project. I was helping her, and just because she was the one doing the actual writing, she thought I wasn't even helping, but I definitely was. So she let me do all of the rest of the project, and she shouldn't be allowed to do that to someone!

The Girl in the Basketball Shorts- 6th Grade

The Situation: Cindy and Jenn have been leaving Nicole out of a lot of their activities. Jenn seems fine with it, but Cindy has been feeling increasingly bad about it. Cindy says Jenn has been calling Nicole a "lesbian," and Cindy said she wasn't a good friend. Cindy has brought all three in for peer mediation.

Cindy's Story: This past week, Jenn and I have been hanging out a lot without Nicole, often leaving to talk about fashion and music and other things. Nicole is very athletic, is on the basketball team, and tends to wear athletic clothes. When I've brought up my regrets about leaving Nicole out, Jenn said Nicole was too "lesbian" to talk about the same things as us. I knew that was really hurtful, so I told her she wasn't a good friend, and Jenn started crying, denying she said anything. I know she didn't mean to be rude, but she tends to let mean things slip out of her mouth.

Cindy's Goal: I want Jenn to admit she called Nicole a lesbian, and for her to know she was being hurtful. I feel really bad for hanging out with Jenn more than Nicole... I let her convince me to hang out only with her.

Nicole's Story: I noticed Jenn and Cindy leaving early at lunch to go hang by themselves, and generally leave me out of their activities this past week. I know I'm not as into fashion as they are, and I know they don't like sports as much as I do. But it still hurts my feelings that they are leaving me out. I can tell Jenn is roping Cindy into this... and I have a feeling she's saying things about me. Jenn tends to do that. Today at lunch I

saw them talking and Jenn crying, and Cindy told me she wanted us all to solve this with peer mediation.

Nicole's Goal: I just want us all to take turns doing what we each like, how we've always done it. I may not know all the new songs or fashion trends, but I still want to be included.

Jenn's Story: I convinced Cindy this past week to just hang out with me. Nicole doesn't really like to do the same activities as us, so why wait for her? But then Cindy said I wasn't a good friend, and said something about me calling Nicole a lesbian. I might have said that but I never meant anything. Why is she making me feel so bad? This whole thing is not that big of a deal.

Jenn's Goal: I just want to hang out with Cindy, and I don't think this is that important. I didn't do anything terrible, I was just hanging out with my friend! Nicole likes to do other things, anyway.

New Group of Friends- 6th Grade

The Situation: Joey and Blake used to be best friends in elementary school, but when 6th grade hit, Blake started hanging out with a new group of friends who were very different from Joey. Joey reposted a picture of him and Blake in an attempt to rekindle their friendship, but when Blake's friends saw it they told him Joey was a loser. They want to be friends again, but Blake is afraid of what his friends will think.

Joey's Story: We used to be best buds, but Blake started hanging out with a new group of friends. It was really sad to see him always hanging out with them and not me, so I posted a picture of us two on Facebook to remind him about me. But he's afraid to hang out with me again because they all don't like me at all.

Joey's Goal: I just want to be friends with Blake again, but I also don't want all those guys to hate me. I don't want to be a target or anything; I just want my best friend back.

Blake's Story: When I met this new group of guys in middle school, I thought they were all really awesome. I started hanging out with them a ton, and I totally forgot about Joey. I feel really bad, but when they found out I used to be best friends with him, they told me

he was “such a loser.” So I want to include him, but they’d all make fun of both of us if I did.

Blake’s Goal: I want to include Joey again, but I don’t know how without all of my new friends teasing me and Joey.

Hockey Fight- 6th Grade

The Situation: Rebecca and Elizabeth were playing field hockey during P.E. when Rebecca hit Elizabeth on the leg with her hockey stick. After Elizabeth retaliated, the P.E. teacher sent them to peer mediation.

Rebecca’s Story: Elizabeth and I don’t get along at all, and P.E. is our only class together. Today when we were playing field hockey, I accidentally hit her with my hockey stick and she got really angry. The teacher didn’t do anything because she knew it was an accident. But then Elizabeth hit me really hard on purpose, and so I tried to get her back but the teacher separated us and sent us to peer mediation.

Rebecca’s Goal: Elizabeth shouldn’t be in my class anymore. I hit her on accident and then she goes and hits me back as some sort of revenge! I’m really upset because I can’t afford to get suspended again.

Hockey Fight – 6th Grade, cont’d

Elizabeth’s Story: I know Rebecca doesn’t like me at all, but I don’t even know why! Today in P.E. she hit me with her hockey stick, and I know it was on purpose because she hates me. So when I told the teacher, she didn’t do anything because she likes Rebecca more than me. So I hit Rebecca back to show her how it feels, and then she got really angry and tried hitting me again!

Elizabeth’s Goal: She’s such a trouble-maker! She should get in serious trouble for this. She obviously hit me on purpose, and I don’t want her to walk away from this without some serious punishment.

The Bra Stealer- 6th Grade

The Situation: Nichole and Joshua are in the same P.E. class, and Nichole is frequently made fun of because her large breasts, unusual for that age. When one of Joshua’s female friends found her bra in the locker room and was showing it to a group of guys, he decided to have some fun with it. After strapping the bra to his chest, he ran around pretending to be a girl. Nichole saw him and slapped him in the face. Both were sent to peer mediation.

Joshua's Story: After class, I saw some friends playing around with a bra. I just thought it was an opportunity for some fun, so I grabbed it, put it on and did an impression of a girl. Everyone thought it was hilarious, but Nichole came in out of the blue and slapped me in the face... I was too shocked to do anything.

Joshua's Goal: I was just making a joke; I mean it's not like I stole it. I just saw it and wanted to have a laugh. She should apologize for slapping me, I didn't know the bra actually belonged to her!

Nichole's Story: Everyone always makes fun of my boobs. They keep calling me names because of how big they are. My mom says they'll stop soon, but they keep doing it. I can usually handle it, but then I saw Joshua with one of my bras on, and I thought he was pretending to be me. I got really mad and was sick of being treated so horribly, so I slapped him and made him give it back.

Nichole's Goal: I want a sincere apology from Joshua, and I want him to promise never to make fun of me or my body ever again.

Instagram Slumber Party- 7th Grade

The Situation: Alexis and Jess used to be best friends, but have grown apart in 7th grade. Recently, Jess invited a bunch of girls over for a slumber party, except Alexis. That night, the girls posted pictures of the party on Instagram.

Alexis' Story: Even though I'm not best friends with Jess anymore, it still felt terrible to be excluded from her party. We used to be so close! And what was worse is that they posted a bunch of pictures on Instagram. I feel so hurt and betrayed. We're not best friends, but I thought we were still friends at least.

Alexis' Goal: I want her to stop purposely leaving me out and posting pictures of her friends without me, when she knows it hurts me.

Jess' Story: I didn't feel like I was excluding or anything. Since Alexis and I aren't really friends anymore, or at least not as close, she probably wouldn't have wanted to come to my party anyway. So why invite her? And I just posted the pictures for fun; it's not like I'm not allowed to do that.

Jess' Goal: Alexis is just over-reacting. I honestly just think she should let it go. We aren't close anymore, so we aren't going to be the same way as before.

Three Boys- 7th Grade

The Situation: Brian, Jonothan, and Kenny used to be friends. Now Brian and Jonothan aren't friends, and Kenny is caught in the middle. Brian began to tease Jonothan, who took great offense to it. Kenny was secretly better friends with Brian, and never confronted Brian about their conflict. Kenny felt bad for both sides so he filled out a mediation form.

Brian's Side- Kenny, Jonothan and I used to be friends. Whenever I made a little joke about Jonothan, he started to act really hurt. Afterwards I'd laugh and tell him it was a joke, but he kept taking so much offense to it. But I didn't really know it was that big of a deal. Now, Jonothan doesn't want to hang out with me anymore.

Brian's Goal: I want Jonothan to know I was just joking around and didn't mean any of it.

Jonothan's Side- Kenny, Jonothan and I used to be friends, but Brian kept making fun of me. I told Brian to stop teasing me, but he wouldn't. He thought it was funny, but it really hurt to be made fun of. So I asked Kenny to hang out with me more, and he did. I told Kenny what was happening, but Brian never stopped teasing me.

Jonothan's Goal: I was so hurt by all of Brian's teasing... It doesn't even make me want to try to be friends again. I just want him to apologize at this point.

Three Boys – 7th Grade, cont'd

Kenny's Side- I have been friends with Brian and Jonothan forever. All of a sudden, Jonothan asked me to hang out with him more, but I didn't know why. But then I found out it was because he was feeling hurt because Brian was teasing him. I tried to comfort him, but didn't want to directly confront Brian because he was also my best friend, and I knew he wasn't trying to really be mean.

Kenny's Goal: I want to resolve this and for all three of us to get along like we used to. I don't know exactly how to fix everything, but I want Jonothan and Brian to get along again.

Horsing Around- 7th Grade

The Situation: Ron and Danny constantly horse around in class, calling each other names and laughing about it. It usually disrupts class, but today the teacher had to send them to peer mediation because it got out of hand.

Ron's Story: Danny and I always play around in class, but its never serious or anything. We like to tease each other and call each other names, but never anything real. The other day, though, we started getting on each other about who would win in a fight, and he mentioned how I would lose because I was so scrawny compared to him. Usually we don't get really personal, but I'm really short and skinny, and I thought that was a bit far, so I told him he would be opposite. Like lose because he's too big. I just wanted to get even, but he got really mad, and then we were broken up by the teacher.

Ron's Goal: At first it was just fun teasing each other, but it got a bit out of hand. I just don't think he should take so much offense, we were just joking around like always. I don't think it's a problem if he just takes it lightly.

Danny's Story: Ron and I were playing around, as usual, when we got into talking about who would win in a fight. I mean, he's a pretty small guy, so I said he'd be too small, but I said it pretty jokingly. But then he came back at me all serious, saying I was too fat to win in a fight. He didn't seem like he was joking at all, so I got pretty mad.

Danny's Goal: I was just joking until he actually got really serious and mean. I don't think we should joke around anymore...

The Basketball Courts- 7th/8th Grade

The Situation: Joshua (7th) and Lawrence (8th) were caught arguing with a group of their respective grade levels. Joshua and his friends claimed the court, while Lawrence said it already belonged to him and his friends. The argument quickly escalated when a teacher stepped in and sent them to peer mediation.

Joshua's Story: All the other courts were full during lunch except for the one the 8th graders usually use. It wasn't fair for us not to be able to use it when we got here first, and besides, the courts don't necessarily belong to any grade level. They just always force us off whenever they come over to play. So this time, when they came over, I didn't want to just back down like always. I said we have just as much of a right to be here as they do. He kept trying to force me off when the teacher came over.

Joshua's Story: I think that the courts don't belong to any certain grade, its just whoever claims the place first. They have always tried to force us off, but I've had enough of it.

Lawrence's Story: My friends and I went over to the basketball courts, as usual, to play in our court, when the same group of 7th graders were in it again. We told them again that this was our court, and just like them we had to wait until 8th grade to get to use it. But this time he just wouldn't listen, and he kept saying he got here first. It just doesn't work that way. I kept telling him to leave when a teacher arrived.

Lawrence's Goal: It's always been this way at this school, everyone knows that court is always for the 8th graders. He should have to wait just like us until 8th grade to use it.

Phone Thief- 8th Grade

The Situation: Andrew reported that Cole stole his phone from the locker room. Cole denied the accusations, and the two were brought to resolve the issue in a peer mediation.

Andrew's Story: I had saved up my own money for the past six months to get the iPhone 5s. I brought it to school yesterday and was showing a group of my friends the fingerprint recognition feature, and I saw this kid Jimmy eyeing my phone suspiciously out of the corner of my eye. Then later that day after gym, I left the phone in my bag next to my locker and I went to use the restroom. When I came back, I saw Jimmy hurrying out of the locker room really quickly. When I got home, my phone was gone! I confronted him at school today, but he denied everything!

Andrew's Story: I just know it was him. He was eyeing my phone earlier that day, and then I saw him running out of the locker room. If he hasn't sold it yet, I want him to give it back. I spent so much money on that thing!

Jimmy's Story: When I got to school today, Andrew came up to me and accused me of stealing his iPhone 5s! I had no clue what he was talking about. I remember seeing him showing his friends, and it was the same phone I was saving up to get. I wanted to see if the fingerprint feature was worth it, but I tried to look without being too obvious, because I didn't really know any of them. He told me I stole it during gym, but I was running to my next class because I didn't want to be late! I would never steal something; I never have and I never will.

Jimmy's Goal: These are the facts, and he can't keep accusing me of something I didn't do. He has to drop it; it's not my fault if he misplaced his phone and got it stolen. But he certainly can't keep accusing me of it!

Popular New Arrival- 8th Grade

The Situation: Eliza has allegedly spread a nasty rumor about the popular new girl, Veronica. When Veronica confronted her, she denied everything, and Veronica said she was going to slap her when a teacher pulled them apart, sending them to peer mediation.

Eliza's Story: There's this new girl at school, Veronica, who arrived this year. I used to be really popular, but now everybody loves her for some reason. She practically has an entire following, and it was really annoying me. So I told some of my friends about what I thought of her, and apparently it got out. She came up to me saying I purposefully spread the rumor, which technically I didn't, so I denied it, and she said she was going to slap me!

Eliza's Story: I just told a few of my friends stuff; it's not my fault who they tell, right? Rumors are spread all the time anyway; she shouldn't get so upset about it.

Veronica's Story: I didn't know anybody at this school when I moved here, but everyone has been so nice to me. I've met so many new friends, but I can tell Eliza doesn't like me for some reason. She was the popular girl, and we never really hit it off quite that well. All of last week people started avoiding me, and so when I asked one of my close friends they said that there was a rumor that I was a slut and was getting around with all the guys. The first person I suspected was Eliza, so when I asked her, she seemed really guilty but denied it! I knew it was her, so I threatened to slap her if she didn't spit out the truth.

Veronica's Goal: I know she spread that rumor, and she did it out of jealousy. Just because I'm getting more popular than her does not give her the right to spread that about me. She has to admit it to the school that she was the one who spread it.

The Situation: Penny and Xander had started an Animal Rights Club at their school, both as co-presidents of the group. However, after starting her other GSA club, Penny had to miss a lot of meetings. Xander downgraded her to a normal member without telling her, and she blew up in his face during the next meeting.

Penny's Story: Earlier this year Xander and I set up a club together to help fight for animal rights, but lately I've been kind of busy working on my GSA club, so I had to miss a lot of the animal rights meetings. I always tried to let Xander know that I wouldn't be able to show up to our meetings. I guess he felt like I had missed too many, so he downgraded me to a regular club member. Of course, Xander didn't bother to tell me that until I came into a meeting the next day. So I sort of blew up at Xander and called him a couple of names, but you can't blame me for that; I was upset.

Penny's Goal: I want Xander to re-elect me as his co-president and apologize for booting me out of my position, to promise that he won't do the same thing ever again, and to fix our friendship.

Xander's Story: After we started the club, Penny got busy with her other club, and kept saying that it would be "just one meeting" and she'd be like "I'll be back at the next one, I'm so sorry!" and stuff like that, but it's like, the apologies can only go so far, you know? And she just missed so many meetings! I couldn't rely on her being a co-president and not even being there, so I took it on by myself. I was going to tell Penny what I did, but I knew she was going to be upset about it, so I was waiting until I saw her in person so that I could do it face-to-face, but she just blew up on me in front of the whole meeting.

Xander's Goal: I want Penny to understand and accept why I had to go on without her, for her to apologize for completely bailing on me, and to apologize for blowing up on me during the meeting.

Three Girls- 9th Grade

The Situation: Scarlett, Mara, and Claire have been best friends for a long time. However, Mara and Claire have been having a lot of conflicts recently, and Scarlett has taken it upon herself to refer the three of them to peer mediation.

Mara's Story: Scarlett, Claire and I all used to be friends, but Claire and I drifted apart. I don't hate her- we just don't have much in common. I still am good friends with Scarlett though, so there are times when I run into Claire. A couple of times I've teased her, but I didn't mean anything by it. I thought it was just friendly joking. Then I found out she was crying, saying I'm a bully. I honestly didn't know I was hurting her, but she shouldn't be saying things like that about me to other people! If she was really feeling that terrible she should've told me how she was feeling, not try to pull Scarlett into this.

Mara's Goal: Claire needs to take jokes less seriously. And she shouldn't go around talking bad about me when all I did was make a few jokes!

Claire's Story: Scarlett, Mara and I all used to be friends, but I always thought Mara was kind of mean. She has this way of teasing people. Eventually Mara and I drifted apart, but I'm still really good friends with Scarlett. Unfortunately, this means I still sometimes have to see Mara. I don't know what Scarlett sees in her. A few times, Mara has made fun of me about things I've said. I told Scarlett how I felt, and she said she'd talk to Mara, but Mara continued to say things when I'd run into her. Why would she be friends with someone who is mean to me?

Claire's Goal: I just want Mara to stop teasing me, and I want Scarlett to stand up for me more... It hurts me that she knows Mara is being so mean, but does nothing about it. But above all I just want the teasing to stop.

Scarlett's Story: I have been friends with Mara and Claire forever. We used to all be friends, but Claire and Mara drifted apart. They don't really have that much in common, but I have things in common with both of them. Mara can be kind of blunt and tease people. I know she doesn't mean to hurt anyone, but sometimes people who aren't good friends with her take it the wrong way. This has happened a few times recently with Claire. She told me how she felt, and I said I'd talk to Mara about it, but I never did. I am really sorry about how things have turned out. I want to be friends with both of them, but it is really hard if they hate each other.

Scarlett's Goal: I want them to either get along and be friends, or stop getting into so many conflicts. I think Mara shouldn't tease so much, but I also think Claire should realize she doesn't mean any harm.

Street Art- 9th Grade

The Situation: Tamara and Malcolm have been best friends for a while, but after being assigned to do a project with a kid Reise, Malcolm has been spending less time with Tamara. Jealous that her friendship with Malcolm is being lost to Reise, she reports a vandalism incident by Malcolm as revenge.

Tamara's Story: I've always been best pals with Malcolm; I mean we grew up together and went to the same school since kindergarten. But ever since he's been hanging out with Reise, I can tell that kid is a bad influence. I don't know what else they're doing, but I know they've been tagging school property. I wasn't sure, but I know Reise is a self-proclaimed "street artist." The other day I saw Malcolm hiding spray paint cans in his backpack, so I reported some new graffiti that popped up.

Tamara's Goal: Malcolm is a good kid at heart, but I just needed to show him how bad of an influence Reise is. If he gets in trouble for this, hopefully they'll stop hanging out.

Malcolm's Story: Tamara and I were really good friends, but she reported me to the school for tagging! Just because I was putting spray cans in my backpack doesn't mean I put up that graffiti! I mean, I might've sprayed something but that doesn't give her the right to rat me out like that. She's just jealous because now I'm hanging out with Reise and not her. And it's art, not graffiti. Haven't you ever heard of Banksy?

Malcolm's Goal: She shouldn't have reported me like that; it's not cool. I'm just finding a way to express myself, and she wants to ruin it because she doesn't want me hanging out with Reise anymore.

The New Friend- 9th Grade

The Situation: Thomas and Carla have been best friends since first grade. They have the same friend group, but they hang out with one another the most. However, Carla became friends with a new girl named Emma, and since then Thomas has said that they don't hang out as often. Both got into a fight about it, and were referred to peer mediation.

Thomas' Story: I've been best friends with Carla since first grade, and we hang out all the time. We have a bunch of other friends, but we have always been the closest by far. Then I noticed, since 9th grade started, Carla has been a bit more distant. At first I thought maybe she was upset with me, but then I found out she was hanging out with this new girl Emma all the time. Whenever I'd ask her about it, she'd either act annoyed or dismiss me like it didn't matter. We're hanging out less and less the more she's with Emma. The other day she tried to talk with me; I asked her if she'd rather talk with Emma, seeing that we don't really anymore. She flipped out on me, and we both got in a huge argument.

Thomas' Goal: I just want my best friend back... I want her to know that she's excluding me, cutting me off because she's hanging out with Emma more and more. I just want her to hang out with me just as much as we used to.

Carla's Story: I've been best friends with Thomas since first grade, and we are always constantly hanging out together. Recently, I met this girl, Emma, and it turns out she plays the violin like me! She even listens to the same music as I do. Thomas and I aren't very musically similar, like Emma and I. So I've been hanging out with her a lot, and I can tell Thomas is getting pretty worked up about it whenever he asks who she is. Finally, when I wanted to talk to him, he said in a snarky tone, "Wouldn't you rather be talking to Emma?" Now we're in a huge argument over this.

Carla's Goal: Thomas has been saying that we never hang out anymore, but we definitely do, just a little less than usual. He's just overreacting because I have a new friend. All I wanted to do was branch out a little in high school and make some new friends, but I'm not throwing him away; he's still my best friend. He's just really rude whenever we bring up Emma.

Unofficial Bio Tutor- 9th Grade

The Situation: Terry has been helping tutor Tristan in biology for a while, but recently Tristan failed a test and blamed Terry. Their friendship is a bit icy now because of it, and they decided to go into peer mediation.

Terry's Story: I've been helping tutor Tristan in biology for a long time now. He has trouble with the concepts, but I really get it so I've been able to help him out a lot. But after I got onto the soccer team, I've had to go to practice almost every day after school and I haven't been able to help him out. I had promised him before that I'd help him out on this chapter, but I got all booked up because of soccer. When he failed the test he blamed it on me for not helping him, but it wasn't my fault! Besides, I'm tired of helping him all the time, it's not like I'm his assigned tutor or anything.

Terry's Goal: He can't be blaming his failed test on me; I've been nice enough to help him out this entire semester, so when he is on his own, it's not my responsibility any more.

Tristan's Story: Biology is definitely not my strong suit. I have to admit, without Terry tutoring me, I would've dropped out of the class by now. But he's actually a really great teacher; he helps me get all the concepts I couldn't get during class. He promised to help me through this next chapter, so I was relying on his help to pass the test. When he got into the soccer team, though, he didn't set aside any of his time to help me, so I was on my own. He didn't even warn me. I tried my hardest to learn the chapter, but I just couldn't get it without him. I ended up failing the test, and he had promised to help me out on it! My grade has dropped down to a D because of it...

Tristan's Goal: I should at least get another chance to retake the test. It's pretty unfair if my tutor just drops out on me! I don't even stand a chance without help.

Mutual Flirt- 10th Grade

The Situation: Emerald and Autumn broke out into a fight during class, yelling at each other so much that the teacher had to escort them to the office. They are to go to peer mediation to resolve their issues.

Emerald's Story: I've always had a crush on Kent, but he and Autumn have been talking a lot lately. She loves to rub it in my face whenever she's flirting with him. Whenever I start talking to Kent, she loves to barge in and interrupt, and then start talking to him herself. But today, I mustered up enough courage to ask him to be my Valentine. He politely turned me down, saying that he was flattered, but he was already going out with Autumn that day. I would've just walked away, but Autumn came up and told him, in front of me, "Aren't you glad you're going out with me and not that loser?" I started yelling at her for being so mean, and she started screaming back.

Emerald's Goal: I'm sick of Autumn constantly trying to make me feel worthless in front of Kent. She knows I have a crush on him, but she's always finding ways to make me feel terrible. She has to get in some sort of trouble for this.

Autumn's Story: I've always liked Kent, but when I heard Emerald liked him too, I had to get revenge on her. Last year, she went out of her way to embarrass me in front of the whole class. So every time I see them talking I go up to him and start flirting a lot. Now we are going out for Valentine's Day. She tried asking him to be her Valentine, and I thought maybe she was trying to embarrass me or steal him or something, so when he turned her down I was really happy. I said something about him dating me and not her, and she started screaming in my face.

Autumn's Goal: She's been looking for a way to embarrass me again, I just know it. But I finally have something good, and she just can't stand that Kent likes me more. She had no right to just scream at me because he turned her down.

Point Guard- 10th Grade

The Situation: Patrick and Colin are both on the basketball team. Patrick is point guard, and whenever he has the ball he never passes it to Colin. During practice one day, Colin grabs the ball and throws it at Patrick's face.

Colin's Story: It's almost halfway through basketball season and Patrick hasn't passed the ball to me once. He deliberately avoids passing me the ball! Even when I'm clearly the best one to pass it to, he passes it to someone else. So finally I had enough and grabbed the ball and threw it at him.

Colin's Goal: Coach should do something about this; Patrick was the MVP last year, but that doesn't mean he can do what he wants.

Patrick's Story: I'm not going to lie... Colin isn't that great at basketball. He really tries, but he hasn't scored a single point this whole season. He can barely make it in the hoop, let alone catch a pass. I'm just afraid he'll make me look bad, or the whole team, if I pass the ball to him. It's nothing personal, it's just that I have the MVP title to uphold. So the other day he just threw the ball into my face during practice.

Patrick's Goal: Colin shouldn't even be on this team. Everyone else barely passes to him, too; he has to deal with his lack of skill. So if he's going to act like that, he should be kicked off the team. He doesn't deserve to be on it with us.

Fifty Dollars- 10th Grade

The Situation: Andrew accused Angel of stealing his money, and they broke out into a fight during lunch. Andrew ended up punching her, and they were sent to peer mediation.

Angel's Story: I was in drama class with Andrew, and he kept bragging about how much money he had, and I could tell it was getting on everyone's nerves. When he left to use the restroom, I remembered he had cash in his backpack, so I took fifty dollars. My family is having a lot of money problems... They can't even afford to give me spending money. So everything was going fine until lunch, when Andrew came up and told me to give him back his money. I tried to say something, and then he punched me in the face.

Angel's Story: I feel terrible about stealing the money. But then my family had to spend so much getting stitches in the ER... He didn't even let me speak up before he punched.

Andrew's Story: I was in drama class, and I was bragging a bit about how much money I made doing this commercial for Nestle. I gave my backpack to Angel and left to use the restroom, and then I came back and we all went to lunch. When I checked my backpack for money to buy the yearbook, I came up fifty dollars short! I just knew it was Angel, and so I went over to her and asked for it back. She tried making up an excuse, and without thinking, I just punched her in the face. She did end up stealing the money though.

Andrew's Story: I shouldn't have punched her, but she had the nerve to steal money from me! I mean, that's a crime right there! She can't go around stealing people's money without expecting consequences.

The Situation: Sandy came to the office claiming she heard that her (ex)-friend Katherine had convinced some others to help in physically confronting, and perhaps abusing, Sandy after school. Both Sandy and Katherine have been brought in to peer mediation to resolve the conflict.

Katherine's Story: Sandy and I have been friends since middle school, and we usually share all of secrets with one another. But one day I saw her kissing my boyfriend Jeffrey. When I confronted her about it, she acted completely clueless! She kept trying to hide her secret love affair from me. So I broke off the relationship with Jeffrey and the friendship with Sandy. Today I got a group of friends together, because I needed some support, and we agreed to go confront Sandy. We weren't going to do anything bad like hurt her though! Just make her confess what she did and own up to her mistakes I guess...

Katherine's Goal: Well, now that I don't have my friends with me, I want Sandy to admit everything she did herself, and apologize. It won't fix what happened, but I just want her to see what she did and stop trying to cover it up with lies.

Sandy's Story: The other day I was hanging out with my friend Katherine's boyfriend Jeffrey, and we ended up kissing... I don't know who initiated it, it just sort of happened. But I mean there were no feelings behind it, it was just a silly moment. It didn't mean anything. And then Katherine exploded on me, and I was too shocked to say anything. Then I heard she had a group of friends who all wanted to gang up on me... I don't know what they were going to do, but I knew it wasn't good. I was really scared.

Sandy's Goal: I want her to promise not to hurt me, and to stop being so aggressive towards me. It wasn't a "secret love affair;" it really didn't mean anything. She makes it seem like I committed a terrible crime... I just want to make sure she doesn't hurt me.

The Situation: Audrey and Sandra, long-time friends, were caught fighting in the hallway at lunch. A teacher heard Audrey call Sandra a “back-stabbing slut.” They both started yelling, when they were broken up and brought to peer mediation.

Audrey’s Story: Sandra and I have been friends since middle school. Recently I started dating Alan, and ever since then Sandra hasn’t been talking to me as much. I always see her give us nasty looks whenever we are together. The other day I saw them walking down the hallway together, talking and laughing, but I let it go. It happened a few more times. But now Alan hinted that we weren’t working out, and we might possibly break up soon. I saw them walking together again in the hallway today, and I knew she had something to do with that. She looked like she was really flirting with him, so obviously I called her out on it, and she got mad at me!

Audrey’s Goal: I want Sandra to stop talking to Alan. He’s my boyfriend, and I can tell she’s just jealous and is trying to break us up. She’s my best friend! How could she do something like that?

Sandra’s Story: Audrey and I have been friends since middle school... best friends in fact. But recently she started dating this guy named Alan, and I noticed we aren’t talking as much as we used to. And I always see them together at school, and now I rarely get to hang out with just Audrey. But a few days ago I bumped into Alan in the hallway, and we started talking. He’s actually a really cute, funny guy. The other day, he mentioned he was doubting his relationship with Audrey. Today, we were talking in the hallway again when Audrey suddenly called me a “back-stabbing slut.” I said I didn’t even do anything!

Sandra’s Goal: I think they should break up. It’s not my fault if Alan is having second thoughts about their relationship, and it’s not like I did anything but talk to him. Am I not allowed to talk to a guy?

The Situation: There has been a rumor going around school that Sean has been doing drugs, and he found out his friend Emily started the rumor. They both came in to peer mediation after a confrontation.

Emily's Story: I'm in a friend group with Sean, and we all always get along really well. But lately Sean has been acting pretty stuck-up, like he's better than everyone else, and they keep treating him like he's on some sort of pedestal. I just thought it was really unfair. I heard his older brother had gotten into trouble with drugs, and that his family was really affected by it. I told some of my friends that maybe he was doing drugs too, but I never really meant it. But now the rumor has gone out of control and spread to the whole school! Sean got really angry at me for spreading it, and I feel really bad. I didn't mean for it to go this far.

Emily's Goal: I just want Sean to see that I really didn't mean it. I didn't even think it would spread; I just mentioned the idea to a couple friends but didn't mean anything by it.

Sean's Story: This past week everybody has been treating me differently, eyeing me and whispering things as I pass by. I found out that there was a rumor that I was doing drugs, and that Emily spread it! I don't know why she would. She knows my brother was in rehab, recovering from his heroine addiction, and that it affected my entire family, including me. She knows how depressed I used to be, and how ever since my brother has been recovering I've been happier than ever, and all my friends have been extremely supportive. How could she spread such an insensitive, disgusting rumor?

Sean's Goal: I need her to apologize. But more than that, I need her let the school know she was the one who spread it, and that it was wrong and false, and that she is sorry. She's going to need to fix this.

Mutual Crush- 11th Grade

The Situation: Finn had allegedly punched Jack in the face after some nasty comments were made.

Jack's Story: My best friend, Finn, started dating Cassidy, the most attractive and popular girl in the school. And he knew I had a crush on her for the longest time, but he still started dating her anyway. And whenever we'd hang out, she was all he'd talk about. It was like he was rubbing it in my face. So I stopped talking to him for a few weeks, until I finally wanted to confront him about it. I called him out, I admit I got a bit worked up, and then he punched me in the face.

Jacks' Goal: He should get suspended for that; there's no reason you do that to someone. Especially to your best friend who you betrayed.

Finn's Story: I was so happy when Cassidy agreed to go out with me. I know Jack had a crush on her, he'd always talk about it... but I mean so did every other guy in this school practically, including me. I just didn't talk about it all the time like him. I thought he'd be really happy for his best friend, but whenever I'd mention her, he'd act all upset. You'd think a best friend would be way more supportive than that. So then he started ignoring me for almost three weeks. One day he came up to me and told me how terrible of a friend I was, and how me and Cassidy were terrible together. I punched him in the face before I could even think, he just kept on going on insulting me!

Finn's Goal: Jack shouldn't be acting so hurt about this whole thing. I was the one who got to date her, and instead of being happy for me, he treats me like crap and has the nerve to say those things to my face!

Taken: Seats at the Basketball Game- 11th Grade

The Situation: Eric and Rob recently got into an argument, the claim being that Eric stole Rob's seat at the basketball game, but Rob had saved it with his bag as he left to use the bathroom. Eric had asked the person next to the bags if the seat was taken, and they said no.

Rob's Story: My friends and I really love basketball, and so I got to the game early to get some seats. None of my friends were there in that section quite yet, so I had space to save some seats for them. I set my bag down on my spot and left really quick to use the bathroom. When I get back, I found this guy Eric sitting where my bag was, and had moved it way down another seat. I asked him to move. He said the person next to the bag said nobody was sitting there- but it was his friend, so obviously he would say that. Just then some of my friends started arriving and crowding around me. I couldn't back down with all of them there, and I had been saving them seats after all. Eric refused to move, and things got pretty heated until the principal broke it up.

Rob's Goal: I want him to apologize for taking my seat when I had obviously saved the seat with my bag. He had no right to move my property, especially when one of his friends claims "nobody was sitting there."

Eric's Story: When I got to the game, I saw a bag lying on the seat next to my friend. I asked him if it was free, and he said yeah, so I moved it. Either someone forgot it there, or they left it there thinking it qualified as saving themselves a seat. Besides, I only moved it down a ways, there was plenty of space. So then this Rob guy comes over and tells me I have to move, and I say no. All of his friends start crowding around him, trying to intimidate me or something. I'm not going to let them try to bully me out of a seat, so I argue back that it's my seat now, and things got pretty heated.

Eric's Goal: He needs to stop overreacting over a seat; it's not a big deal. All I did was scoot the thing down; its not like that space was the only one available. He needs to move on and learn not to expect his bags to save his seats for him.

Copying the Routine- 11th Grade

The Situation: Rebecca, from the cheer team, and Britney, from the Choreo team, got into a fight during lunch. Rebecca accused Britney of stealing her team's choreography, which escalated into a physical dispute before they were separated and sent to peer mediation.

Rebecca's Story: During the homecoming game, Choreo performed a routine that was very similar to ours. A lot of it looked like an exact copy, which made me furious because I had spent weeks working out the choreography for my cheer team! So at lunch I confronted Britney, saying that she stole our choreography, which she denied. I just felt extremely disrespected that she would steal our moves and take the credit for the routine!

Rebecca's Goal: She should tell the whole school how she stole our routine! I don't know how or when she got the chance to, but she has to confess and apologize for taking our ideas.

Britney's Story: I'm captain of Choreo, and last lunch Rebecca came up to me saying that I stole her routine. Of course I didn't, so I defended myself, and then the whole thing just blew up. I didn't copy her routine; it's just a really popular dance style, and a lot of the moves I got from the same musical she did. I feel bad that it ended up looking like hers, but she had no right to accuse me of taking her choreography.

Britney's Goal: She should have talked to me calmly, not just threw accusations like that at my face. I'm sorry the dances ended up looking the same, but it wasn't anybody's fault. She has to realize that this was all a misunderstanding; I would never copy someone's routine!

Roughing Up- 12th Grade

The Situation: Vanessa and Willow got into a fight after school, apparently because Vanessa was harassing a freshman.

Vanessa's Story: It after school, and I wanted to start talking to this freshmen and engage in some conversation. I was just having some fun and laughing and occasionally would playfully push her or poke her. I didn't mean anything; it was honestly just me playing around. But then, Willow came up to me and said to stop bullying the kid. She

was all up in my face shouting, you know? So I shoved her away, and then she came back at me and shoved back, hard.

Vanessa's Goal: She's so self-righteous, she thinks she's trying to help out or something, but she's just bullying me. She's always trying to act like she's the good one. She should at least get detention for what she did.

Willow's Story: I was finishing up some college apps after school when I saw Vanessa teasing some freshman kid. At first I thought she was just playing around, but after it went on for a little longer, I confronted her. I don't care what her excuse was, the freshman was really uncomfortable and looked threatened. When I told her to stop bullying the kid, she shoved me away. Well I wouldn't take that from her, so I pushed her right back.

Willow's Goal: I don't care what her excuse is, couldn't she see how that freshman was feeling? I don't think Vanessa should get off with anything less than a suspension.