Conversation Curriculum

Noisy Neighbors: Complaints and Small Talk

Learning Objective: Students will gain practice in articulating complaints and describing behavior that bothers them.

Before class: Review lesson plan and packet content. Make copies as necessary.

□ Resource Room: ‘Picture story’
  - Lay out sets of the picture story for ‘Warm-up’ activity

15 minutes Warm-up activity: Let students sort neighbor photos based on who they would want for a neighbor

  - Students may pair up or work individually
  - If students are confused by a particular picture, use prompt to guide their thinking: “What is going on in this picture?”
  - Let them talk with other students about their understanding of that picture

10 minutes I do/We do activity: Ask student or pairs to explain why they chose that neighbor picture as people they would want to live by.

  - Teacher: Ask students what rude things their neighbors do, asking them to explain or act out the behavior
  - Display the “How do we interact with our neighbors?” picture sheet and discuss with students strategies for dealing with neighbor problems
  - Model ‘They do’ with a volunteer or student.

*This example will allow the teacher and volunteers to model polite and assertive language used to confront a rude neighbor.
20 minutes  They do activity: ‘Role play’. Students pair up. Let 1 student choose 1 activity card from the deck

- This student will act out the rude neighbor activity
- The other student, the ‘neighbor’ will pretend to knock at the door (knock on table) and politely ask them to stop whatever disruptive activity they were doing. Encourage creativity.

10 -15 minutes  Journal Writing: Students will write in their dialog journals on one of the four options:

- Respond to the teacher’s response (i.e. continue the ‘dialog’ from the last entry)
- Introduce yourself to the teacher
- Tell me about your neighbors. Are they ever noisy or rude? What do you do?
- Free write about a topic of your choice.
How do we interact with our neighbors?

Call the Police
Say ‘hi’ to our neighbors
How are neighbors rude?

Loud music

Spying on other neighbors

Have big parties
Loud singing

Smelly apartments

Talk to our neighbors
Humor
Ignore
How do we react? What do we do?

Gossip