

Building Stronger Bonds

Learning objective: To understand the importance of positive relationships and how to navigate disagreements with empathy and respect.

Read the passage below carefully, then answer the questions that follow in full sentences.

In the vibrant Meadow School, Pip the caterpillar and Max the monkey were working on a collaborative art project. They were tasked with creating a model of the solar system. However, they soon reached a disagreement; Max wanted to use bright, neon colours for the planets, while Pip believed they should stick to scientific accuracy. Their voices grew louder, and the project stalled. Suddenly, Ellie the elephant walked over. She reminded them that a good relationship is like a bridge: it needs strong foundations built on listening. Pip and Max took a deep breath. They decided to take turns explaining their viewpoints. By listening to each other, they realised they could combine their ideas. They decided to paint the planets accurately but add a neon decorative border around the model to satisfy Max's creative flair. By choosing cooperation over conflict, they not only finished their project on time but also learned that respecting different perspectives makes a friendship stronger. When we value others' feelings as much as our own, we create a supportive environment where everyone can thrive and succeed together.

Word bank: empathy · cooperation · resolution · perspective · respectful · communication

1. What specific item were Pip and Max tasked with building for their project? (1 mark)

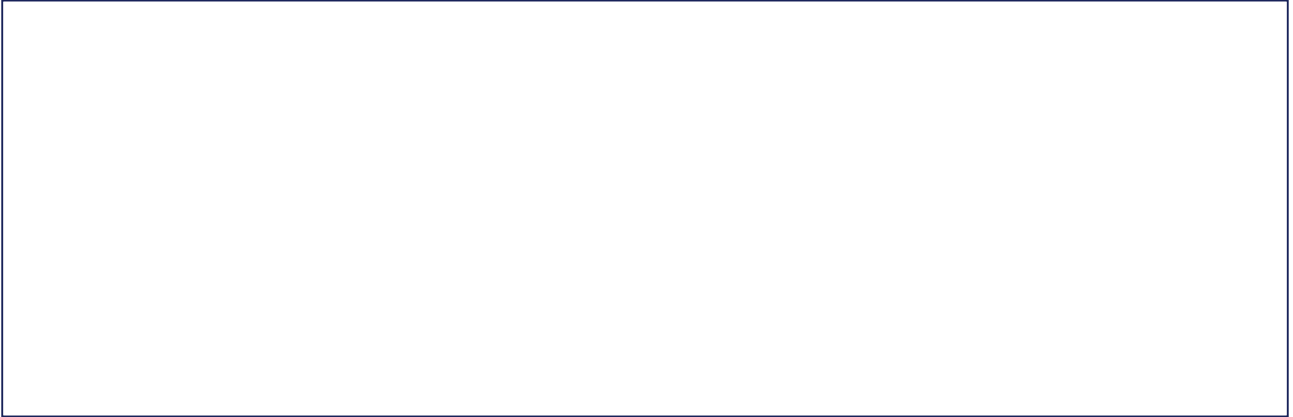
2. What advice did Ellie give to Pip and Max to help them resolve their argument? (1 mark)

3. Why do you think Pip and Max's voices grew louder during their disagreement? (2 marks)

4. How can we tell that Pip and Max value their relationship more than being 'right'? (2 marks)

5. Do you agree that compromise is the best way to solve a disagreement? Explain your reasoning. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Pip and Max working together on their solar system model, showing them looking happy and sharing their ideas.



Extension challenge: Write a short dialogue between two friends who have different ideas for a game, showing how they use 'active listening' to reach a compromise.