Role-Play Scenarios

Conflict between Teens:

You tell a teammate about a guy/girl who you have a crush on. You finally ask your crush out on a date, and he/she says yes. During the date, you run into your teammate, who starts flirting with your crush right in front of you. You get angry and yell at your teammate. You grab your date and walk away. The next day at team practice, your teammate calls you a ‘baby’ and jokes about almost stealing your date.

Discussion Questions:
1. Instead of yelling at your teammate when he/she interrupted your date, what could you have said or done to diffuse the situation?
2. What is a good way to react to your teammate who laughs at you during practice?
3. What should the rest of the team have done when they witnessed the exchange?
4. How can you mediate the situation, so that you and your teammate can be cordial, and once again work together on the same team?

School Conflict:

You know you’ve failed your math quiz, even though you studied. You talk to your teacher after class to express your frustration with the quiz, and to let him or her know that you studied geometry problems for two hours. When your teacher hands out the graded papers, he or she loudly jokes, “Guess you study as well as you do math,” and hands you a paper with an “F” on it. You share the exchange with your mom, who calls the principal for a meeting.

Discussion Questions:
1. Four people are now involved in this conflict (you, your teacher, your mom, and your principal). How can this situation be mediated and resolved so that everyone is pleased with the outcome?
2. What could you have said or done when your math teacher made fun of your quiz grade that would have de-escalated the situation?

Conflict between a Teen and Parents:

You just got your driver’s license and you ask your dad if you can borrow his car on Friday night. He wants to know where you plan on going, and you tell him that you want to drive three of your friends to the movie theater. He quickly says “No, you aren’t ready to drive in a car full of loud teenagers.” You yell that he’s “unfair” and is “trying to ruin your life.” He says that now you have to wait a month before you can borrow his car for any reason.
Discussion Questions:
1. What would be a better way to respond to your dad after he said you couldn’t borrow his car on Friday? Why do you think he said “no”?
2. How can you resolve the conflict, or at least ease your dad’s anger? What can your dad do to resolve the situation?