



Happy New Year ...

to you all and welcome to the tenth issue of *Adding Value*, the first for 2012. We at the Young New Zealanders Foundation (YNZF) certainly hope you have had a restful break (despite the weather in the north!) and have returned refreshed for the new school year.

This newsletter is a free resource for you to use with your students. Each issue is based on an *Aesop's* fable, with questions and activities designed to promote a greater understanding and application of the theme.

We know how busy teachers are; there are internal and external pressures that mean it can be very difficult to find the time to relax with your students and discuss issues that really matter to them – like relationships! Yet a key ingredient to students feeling good about themselves as learners is the relationships they form with their teacher and peers.

The theme of this issue is **compromise**. Many of our young people find it extremely difficult to see the need for compromise, let alone be able to do so. Compromise requires complex skills such as foresight and negotiation. For many, compromise is a sign of weakness rather than strength, but it is a crucial element of friendly and productive classroom environments.

Each newsletter includes **A Little Gem** section. This is based on the resource *Gemstones* produced by the YNZF. *Gemstones* is also free to all schools so please contact the YNZF via their website at www.youngnz.org.nz if you would like to receive your copy.

We love to hear from you. Please email newsletter@youngnz.org.nz with your thoughts, suggestions or queries about *Adding Value*.

Sarah Barrett-Hamilton
Education Consultant
Young New Zealanders Foundation

The Lion & the Boar

By *Aesop*

Theme: Selfishness versus Compromise – who are the winners?

It was a shimmering hot day in the dry grasslands of Africa. Animals were resting from the heat in the shade of the tall thorn trees. The grass was long and brown and the ground was dusty red.

A herd of impala, drinking from a pool of water suddenly scampered off when they sensed a lion approaching. The lion was tired, hot and thirsty. He was relishing the thought of a long, cool drink before he went back to the shade for a sleep.

Another animal was also tired, hot and thirsty, and this animal was not afraid of the lion. It was a boar.

The lion and the boar arrived at the pond within seconds of each other. They were both intent on quenching their thirsts immediately, but neither was prepared to share. Initially they tried to stare each other into submission but, when neither would back down, they quickly began to argue.

"Oi!" roared the lion. "I was here first! Go find your own pond to drink from!"

"Me?" replied the boar. "You've got to be joking! I drink here at the same time every day. I've got rights, you know!"

"Ha!" the lion scoffed. "I'll show you who has the right to drink here ..." and with that, the lion bared his teeth, let out an almighty roar that shook the ground, and leapt towards the boar.

The boar, however, was ready. He crouched low, kept his head focused, and with his mighty tusks and strong jaw began to fight back. Soon the lion and the boar were engaged in a fierce battle. They each suffered terrific wounds from the other and their blood began pooling on the ground. The other animals were woken from their lazy slumber by the cries of

continues ➤



◀ continued

agony from the raging pair. It was going to be a fight to the death.



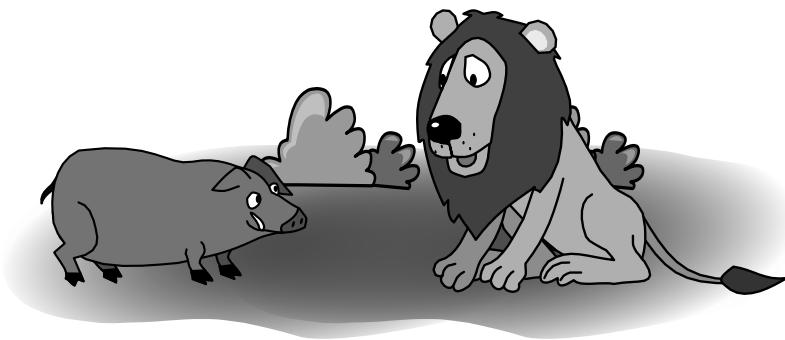
One of the animals looked at the clashing pair from a branch of a thorn tree with expectant glee – it was the vulture. The vulture gathered his comrades and they began circling above the two fighting beasts. This was going to be an easy feast for the vultures. All they had to do was bide their time until one killed the other!



It was only when the lion and the boar suddenly broke combat to catch their breath that they noticed the vultures eagerly watching their battle. In an instant they knew what the vultures were waiting for and both felt extremely foolish for their arrogant and selfish attitudes.

The lion and the boar looked at each other, realised there was more than enough room and water for them both to drink at the same time, and nodded saying ...

“It is better for us to be friends and share than for one of us to become food for the vultures!”



Questions

1. Why were the animals drinking from the pool?
2. What made the impala scamper off?
3. What happened when the boar came to drink from the pool?
4. Why were the vultures waiting with “expectant glee”?
5. What would have happened if the lion and the boar had continued to fight?
6. What did the lion and the boar agree to do?
7. At the end of the story, who were the winners?






Discussions

In groups or pairs, discuss ...



- At the beginning of the fable, why did neither the lion nor the boar want to share the pond?
- Why can it be difficult to share?
- What does the word “compromise” mean?
- What do you think it takes to be able to compromise? Make a list of all the necessary skills.
- Discuss the terms “win-win”, “win-lose”, and “lose-lose”. What does your group / pair think each term means and which one(s) apply to this fable?
- How does “compromise” relate to how we are going to get along this year as a class?

Suggested Activities

-  **Brainstorming:** Create a list of six different situations that would require people to compromise.
-  **Role Play (part 1):** In groups of three or four, choose a situation requiring a compromise from your list. Plan, rehearse and present your play to the class.
-  **Role Play (part 2):** Using the same situation, this time change the script so that the ending becomes “win-lose” or “lose-lose”.
-  **Design a poster:** Using your creative skills, create a piece of art around the concept of compromise. Try to include some text as well.
-  **Comic Time:** Create a comic strip with at least five boxes. Either retell this fable using pictures only or create your very own original!



Want to receive *Adding Value*?

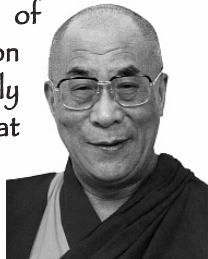
Adding Value is emailed as a free PDF to all teachers who join the mailing list by sending their name, school and email address to newsletter@youngnz.org.nz with “Subscribe” in the subject line.

Words of Wisdom

From *The Book of Wisdom* by the Dalai Lama ...

If you think only of yourself, if you forget the rights and well-being of others, or, worse still, if you exploit others, ultimately you will lose. You will have no friends who will show concern for your well-being. Moreover, if a tragedy befalls you, instead of feeling concerned, others might even secretly rejoice.

By contrast, if an individual is compassionate and altruistic, and has the interests of others in mind, then irrespective of whether that person knows a lot of people, wherever that person moves, he or she will immediately make friends. And when that person faces a tragedy, there will be plenty of people who will come to help.

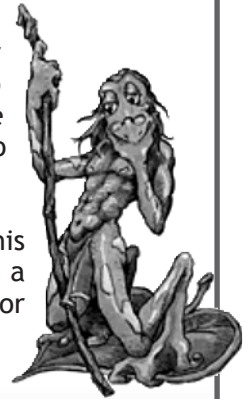


“The law of “win-win” says:
Let’s not do it your way or my way,
let’s do it the best way.”
Greg Anderson (author)

Gemstones: A Resource for Students A Little Gem

In *Gemstones* Adventure Five, the Boy tells the fox about a recurring dream. In the dream he comes across a poor woodcutter and his wife. They live in a clean, but run-down cottage. When the Boy enters their home he is welcomed and they share what little food they have with him. The Boy is far from grateful. In fact, he is incredibly rude to the couple and eats far more than his share of the food.

1. Why were the woodcutter and his wife willing to share their food with the Boy when they had so little to start with?
2. The Boy ate more than his share. Did this result in a “win-win”, “win-lose”, or “lose-lose” situation?
3. The Boy regretted his actions and tried to make amends. If he could turn back the clock to when he first entered the woodcutter’s house, what would he need to do to create a “win-win” situation?



For more information about the *Gemstones* resource, please go to the **Young New Zealanders** website at www.youngnz.org.nz

Good Ideas!

Young people can learn a great deal about themselves in the outdoors. It is becoming increasingly difficult for schools to conduct the traditional “school camps” we experienced when we were young, and hard working families do not necessarily have the time or the funds to be able to take their children on adventures.

A teacher at **Kedgley Intermediate** in Auckland takes a group of students each year to **Tree Adventures Ltd** in Woodhill Forest. The students who attend have all completed the *Gem of the First Water* programme, which *Gemstones* is based on, and the trip is their form of graduation



and celebration of achievement. The students are challenged by the high ropes courses and learn a great deal about how to face their fears, listen to instructions and support each other.

For more details, contact **Tree Adventures Ltd**, phone: 0800-TARZAN (0800-827926), or visit their website at www.treadventures.co.nz

Your Ideas & Feedback – We’d Love to Hear From You!

What does your school include in its pastoral support programme? Let us know and we’ll share your *Good Ideas*, or any other thoughts and suggestions – we welcome all feedback. If there is a topic you would like us to cover, please let us know. We want the *Adding Value* newsletters to be as relevant to you as possible. Email: newsletter@youngnz.co.nz





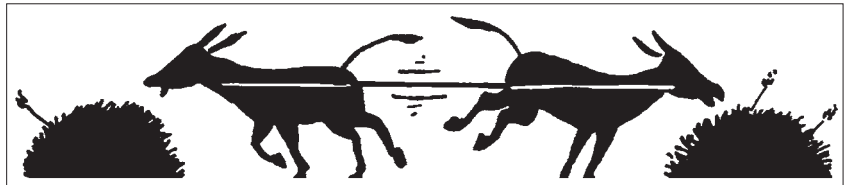
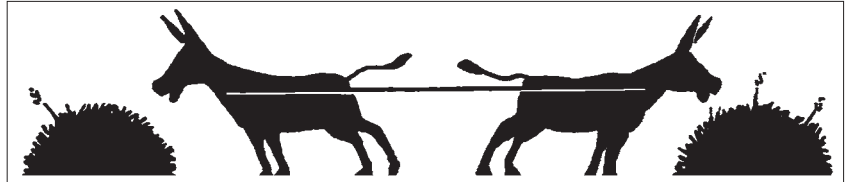
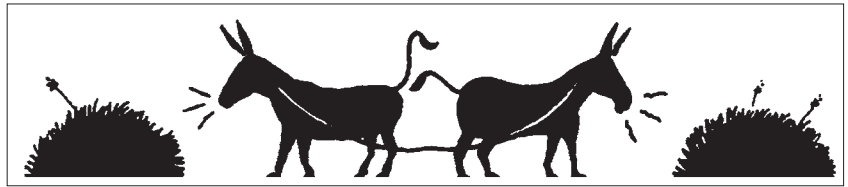
The Tale of Two Donkeys

This activity takes a little bit of preparation, but it is worth it.

Enlarge the *Tale of Two Donkeys* pictures on the right (download larger versions from www.youngnz.org.nz). Make enough copies for your class – this activity can be done in pairs or small groups. Cut the pictures up into separate panels.

There are several ways you can then use the pictures.

1. Give your class all the pictures and ask them to reorder them so that the tale makes sense. Afterwards, discuss how the donkeys created a winning situation for each of them.
2. Give your class the first picture. Discuss what the problem is. Hand out the next three pictures one at a time and with each discuss what is happening and how the donkeys could turn their “lose-lose” situation into a “win-win” situation. Before handing out the final two pictures, see if any of the students can guess how the donkeys will resolve their problem.
3. Hand out all the pictures except the fourth picture (where the donkeys are trying to decide what to do). Explain that one picture is missing and then ask the class to order the pictures. Once they have done so, see if any of the students can determine where the missing picture should go and what the missing picture should look like – emphasising the need for face-to-face negotiation when compromising.
4. Once all the pictures are in order, ask the students to create dialogue for the donkeys.



Source: Quaker Peace Service and Hodder & Stoughton

● The six most important words: *I admit I made a mistake*
 ● The five most important words: *You did a good job*
 ● The four most important words: *What is YOUR opinion?*
 ● The three most important words: *If you please*
 ● The two most important words: *Thank you*
 ● The one most important word: *We*
 ● The least important word: *I*

Author Unknown