**Herencia Guadalupana Lab Schools 501(c)3**

**Educating Minds and Hearts**

**Problem Solving Dialogue for**

**Self-regulation and Resilience**

**Solving a Conflict**

Darren and Angie were building a zoo in the block area. They were using the large rubber animals. Darren is soft spoken, kind and tender little boy. Angie is a fighter and gets angry and defends herself. She is a little heavy handed and a bit myopic about seeing more than her side of the story. Though Darren initially was timid, he now advocates for himself.

This morning he came whimpering to the teacher holding his hand. He shared that Angie had scratched his hand with a big rubber bear. The teacher asked Darren what he needed. He said he needed a band aide. While the teacher comforted Darren cleaned his scratch and put a band aide, she asked him to tell him what happened.

The teacher then sent Darren back prompted with, “Tell Angie what she did. How you feel about it. Ask her to keep your body safe and take care of you. Tell her not to do it again. If she does not listen, return and we will talk to her together. (This gives children an opportunity to build strength to confront the perpetrator. Yet, while the student talks to the other party, the teacher watches in support from a distance.)

Angie pretended not to listen and kept playing though she would glance up at him now and then in annoyance. Darren returned and said she did not listen. Angie was summoned by teacher to come and talk. Angie walks up and teacher asks Angie what happened. She says they were both playing and he got hurt with the bear. The teacher has Darren repeat his dialogue with Angie but insists they look at each other and use each other’s names. Angie is avoiding looking at Darren.

Teacher asks Angie, “What do you want to tell Darren. Angie says, “Next time move your hand.” (Teacher wanted to laugh at her honesty but refrained) Teacher said, “I am sorry you feel that way Angie. You hurt Darren and you need to keep his body safe and take care of him. Are you ready to say you are sorry? Angie shakes her head no. Teachers says, “Stay with me for a while and when you are ready to talk to Darren let me know.” After about 15 minutes, Angie says, “I am ready.” Darren comes and Angie says, “I am sorry I scratched you. I will keep your body safe. I will take care of you.” Teacher turns to Darren and says, “Will you be okay in the blocks playing with Angie? Darren says, “No.” Teacher turns to Angie and says, “Sorry, Angie you hurt Darren. Let’s find another place you like to play. After lunch we can try the blocks again. Where would you like to go?”

**Questions to Consider and Discuss**

Which non cognitive skills are being learned? Which cognitive skills are being learned?

How is this impacting the learning habits of children?

How is this impacting the climate of learning for children?

Do you have a similar story?

What can you use of this vignette to strengthening your children?