

1.9 Privacy & Personal Property — Conflict Practice

Subsection 1.9 — Privacy & Personal Property

Conflict Scenarios & Role-Play Practice

Purpose:

Stress compresses boundaries. Jealousy, fear of theft, and control struggles can erupt when privacy and property are unclear. Use these scenarios for practice before real conflict hits.

Instructions:

- Choose a scenario below.
- Assign roles (Parent, Teen, Child, Council Member, etc.).
- Role-play the conflict for 3–5 minutes.
- Pause and discuss: What made it worse? What could make it better?
- Then re-play using the family's agreed rules for privacy and property.

Scenario 1 — The Taken Tool

A parent quietly takes a teenager's multi-tool without asking because a repair is urgent. The tool is later misplaced. The teen discovers it is gone.

Questions:

1. What did each person feel in the moment?

2. How could this have been handled according to our property rules?

3. What restitution or repair is owed, if any?

Scenario 2 — Reading the Journal

A child or adult reads another person's journal because they are worried about mood changes and possible danger.

Questions:

1. When, if ever, is it ethical to read someone's private writing?

2. What should happen if privacy is violated 'for safety'?

3. How can the family rebuild trust after such a breach?

Scenario 3 — Unequal Toys or Clothing

One child has a beloved toy or extra set of clothes from before the crisis. Another child has less and feels it is unfair.

Questions:

1. How do we acknowledge feelings of jealousy without forcing equal sharing of personal treasures?

2. When is sharing encouraged, and when is protection allowed?

3. What words can adults use to explain privacy and fairness in kid-friendly language?

Scenario 4 — The Overstuffed Corner

One family member keeps piling personal items in a shared common area. Others feel the space is no longer usable.

Questions:

1. Where is the line between personal freedom and family needs?

2. How can we create storage rules that respect both?

3. What is a fair consequence if agreements keep being ignored?

Debrief:

After practicing, write one change you will make in your household rules to lower the chance of these conflicts.
