Research Activity 1

The relative deprivation theory

Imagine getting a computer for your birthday from your parents. You are very happy with your computer, but then you hear from two friends that they each got a new car for their birthday from their parents! Will you feel less happy now about having got your computer, or not? Why? This exercise demonstrates the relative deprivation theory (SP p. 500).

Research Activity 2

Israelis and Palestinians - Working together to end the conflict

Explore the Israeli-Palestine Center for Research and Information website provided below and learn about the way both the Israelis and Arabs are working together to decrease conflict (click on the "Projects" tab at the top of the page). Can you find evidence of:

- working toward superordinate goals?
- looking beyond group memberships?
- working together to find solutions?
- other strategies designed to decrease the conflict?

Even in the midst of war, turmoil, and strife there are amazing people and organizations dedicated to decreasing conflict among groups.

Learn more at the following website: www.ipcri.org/

Research Activity 3

How conflicts can be resolved

Try to remember conflict you experienced yourself recently. Write the situation down, and explain how you resolved the conflict. After reading this chapter, do you think you could have resolved your conflict better? How?

This exercise demonstrates how conflicts can be resolved (SP Pp. 516–517).