Tolerance Activity

BALLOON BUFFER (Experiment)

Many times we find ourselves in a position to help others resolve their conflicts. This aspect of tolerance is demonstrated by the following experiment with balloons.

Take two balloons and tie them to separate strings. Hold the strings in one hand and notice how the balloons repel each other. However, if you place your hand between them, they are drawn toward your hand.

The two balloons can represent two friends who just don't agree on something and choose to stay away from each other. (Hold balloons with one hand by their strings.) We may try to encourage one person, but that still doesn't help.(Use free hand to push one balloon toward the other.) However, if we are able to encourage the two friends to come together to discuss things, the problem may be resolved. (Place free hand between the balloons.)

