

Name: _____ Class: _____

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DIFFERENT DESIRES

John likes snakes, but Jessica is scared of snakes. One day John catches a snake at the park. John shows Jessica his snake by putting it up to her face so she can see. Jessica screams and pushes John away. Jessica is upset. She thought John was her friend, and she's mad that he would do such a cruel thing and scare her like this. John's upset with Jessica for being angry and pushing him. All he wanted to do was show her the snake that he was proud of catching, and he feels rejected and hurt by her reaction.

Color this page, and then use this story to complete the rest of this worksheet.

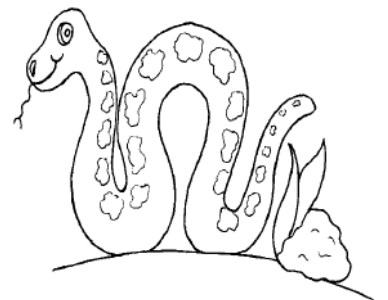


Both John and Jessica made the same mistake: They assumed that others will think the same way as they do. Since John loved snakes, he assumed that Jessica would love them too. And since Jessica hates snakes and is afraid of them, she assumed that John should know this and understand that walking up to her with a snake was a cruel and scary thing to do.

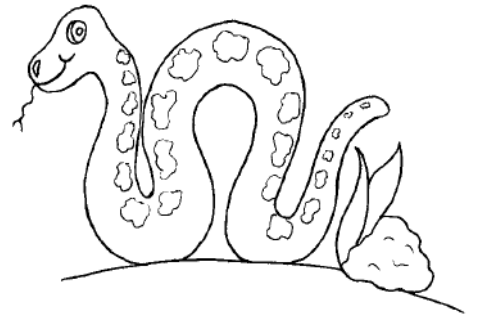
1. What could Jessica have done better in handling this situation in order to avoid this hurtful misunderstanding?

2. What could John have done better?

3. What's the lesson in this story?



1. Why do you think John and Jessica have such different ways of seeing things? How do these differences come about?



2. Come up with your own example of how conflict can occur because of differences in the way people view things:
