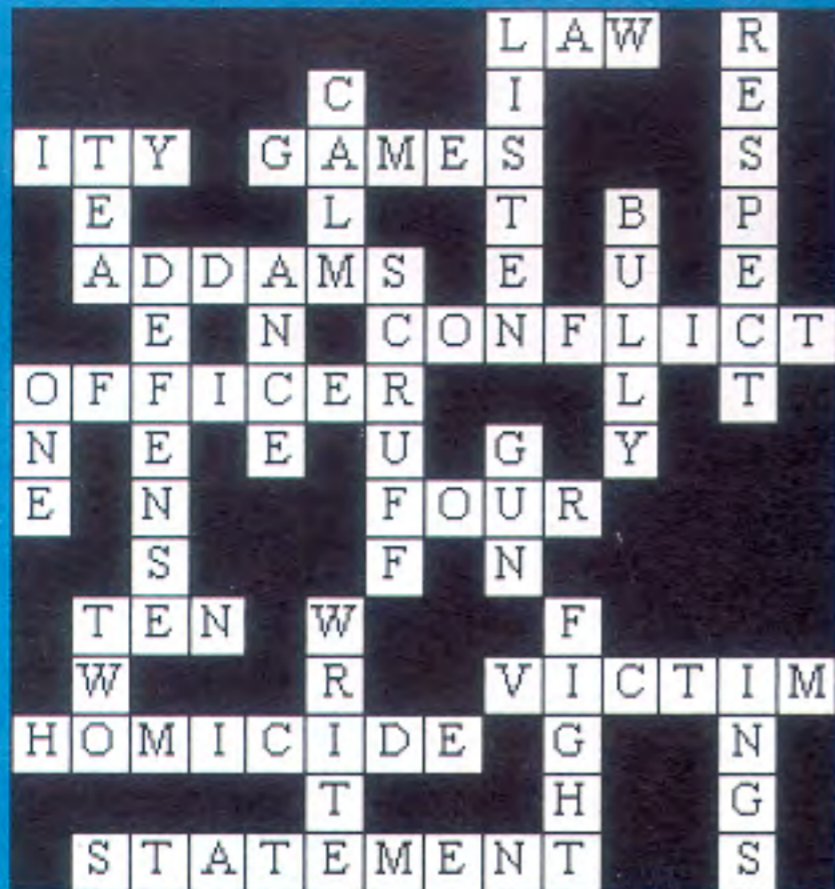


Answers to the puzzle:



Answers to questions:

1. C.

Never, ever touch a gun or other weapon. You could hurt yourself or others. But do tell a responsible adult so that he or she can take action.

2. B.

As I said in question 1, you should never touch a gun or other weapon, including knives. Research shows that weapons are more likely to be used against innocent people than criminals.

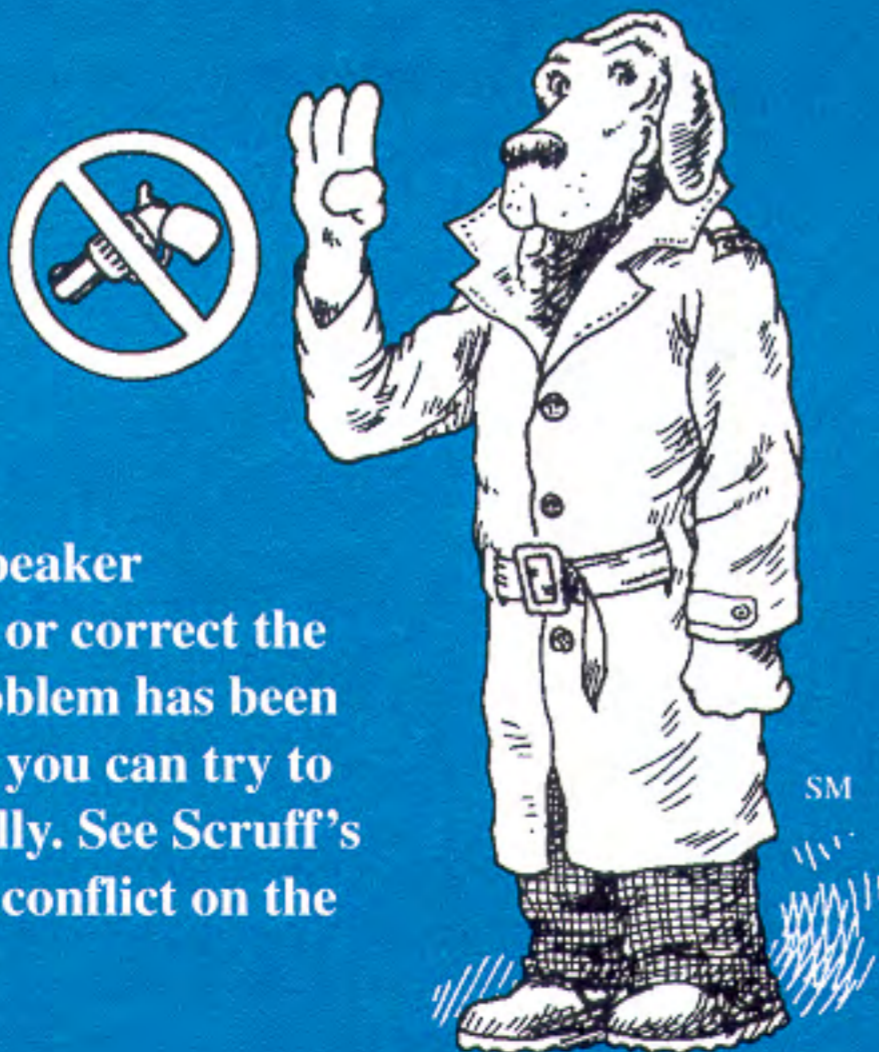
3. C.

Remember Scruff's steps for managing conflict? If you're upset, take a few minutes to calm down.



Then, when both of you are ready, talk calmly about what happened.

4. C.

By paraphrasing what the person said, you give the speaker the chance to agree or correct the perception. The problem has been identified, and now you can try to work it out peacefully. See Scruff's steps for managing conflict on the other side.



Cool kids resolve conflict peacefully!

If you've got a problem with someone else/
don't push or shove, control yourself. 
Take a deep breath and count to ten/
remember this person can be your friend.
Think about the problem, what's the deal?/
then calmly tell the person just how you feel.
There's no need to hurt, what good would it do?/
you wouldn't want anyone hurting you.
Violence is dumb, don't be a fool/
peace is the answer — that's what's cool. 
Take it from me, it's worth your time/
to settle things peacefully — take a bite out of crime.



McGruff the Crime Dog here, with my nephew Scruff. We all experience conflict; it's a natural part of life. Knowing the rap above can help you remember how to resolve conflicts peacefully. Take some more tips from us, and help take a bite out of crime.

We all experience conflict; it's a natural part of life. If a school bully always says or does mean things to you, that's a conflict.

If someone owes you money and won't pay up, that's a conflict, too.

Conflicts can often turn really scary, especially when they involve fists, guns and other weapons.

Imagine this situation: Two people get into an argument. They start out pointing at each other, shouting blame and calling each other names. Soon, one pulls out a gun and shoots the other, who is wounded, or even killed.

We see this sort of thing a lot on TV, in movies, and unfortunately, in real life. But we've got to remember that TV,

movies and video games are made up. They're not real. No one really gets hurt. In real life, however, violence hurts, and people can get killed. Using violence is against the law — it's a crime!



Check out these McGruff facts:

- ✓ Homicide is the second-leading cause of death for youth aged 10 to 19.
- ✓ Every two hours, a child in America is killed with a gun.
- ✓ Violent crimes against people your age are likely to be committed by people your own age.
- ✓ You are also at risk of being the one committing violent acts.
- ✓ 40 percent of students in New York City middle schools said that they had seen someone shot or stabbed. 20 percent said that their own lives had been threatened (according to the National Institute of Justice).
- ✓ One in four bullies will have a criminal record by the age of 30.
- ✓ Kids who continue to bully are five times more likely than classmates to wind up in juvenile court and to be convicted of crimes.
- ✓ Martin Luther King, Jr., Jane Addams, Nelson Mandela and Mother Teresa all have been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for their dedication to helping others and promoting peace.

We have to try to get along with each other. Living peacefully starts with one main idea: respect. We must respect all our fellow humans — people of all colors, religions, nationalities, lifestyles, abilities and genders.

Scruff, who respects all humans and animals, knows some great steps for managing conflict. They're easy to learn — the first letter of each step, when put together, spells out "SCRUFF":

Stop, look and listen — Check yourselves out. Are either of you too upset to deal with the conflict now? First calm yourselves down by counting to 10, taking some deep breaths, or doing whatever else works best for you.

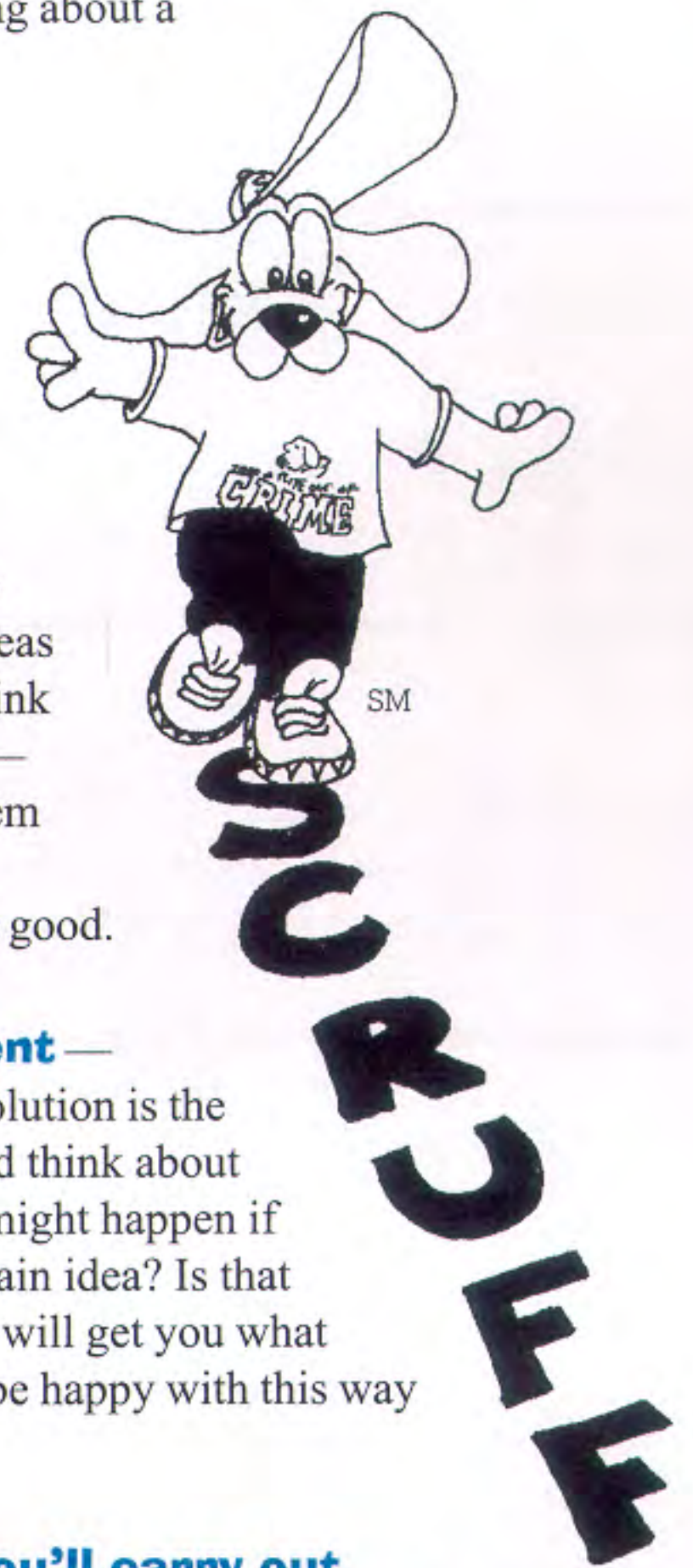
Come up with the problem — Investigate the facts. What exactly is the problem? Take turns describing how you feel, using "I" statements: "I feel angry when you insult me," and so on. Each of you may be talking about a different problem.

Rack your brains — Think of as many ways as you can to solve your problem. Remember, there is always more than one solution to any conflict. You may want to set a certain number of ideas you will make yourself think of — like seven or eight — before you stop. Write them down. Don't worry about whether all your ideas are good.

Use your judgment — Now judge which solution is the best. Look at each one and think about the consequences. What might happen if you were to choose a certain idea? Is that particular choice one that will get you what you need? Will you both be happy with this way of handling things?

Figure out how you'll carry out your solution — Come up with a plan of action. What do each of you need to do?

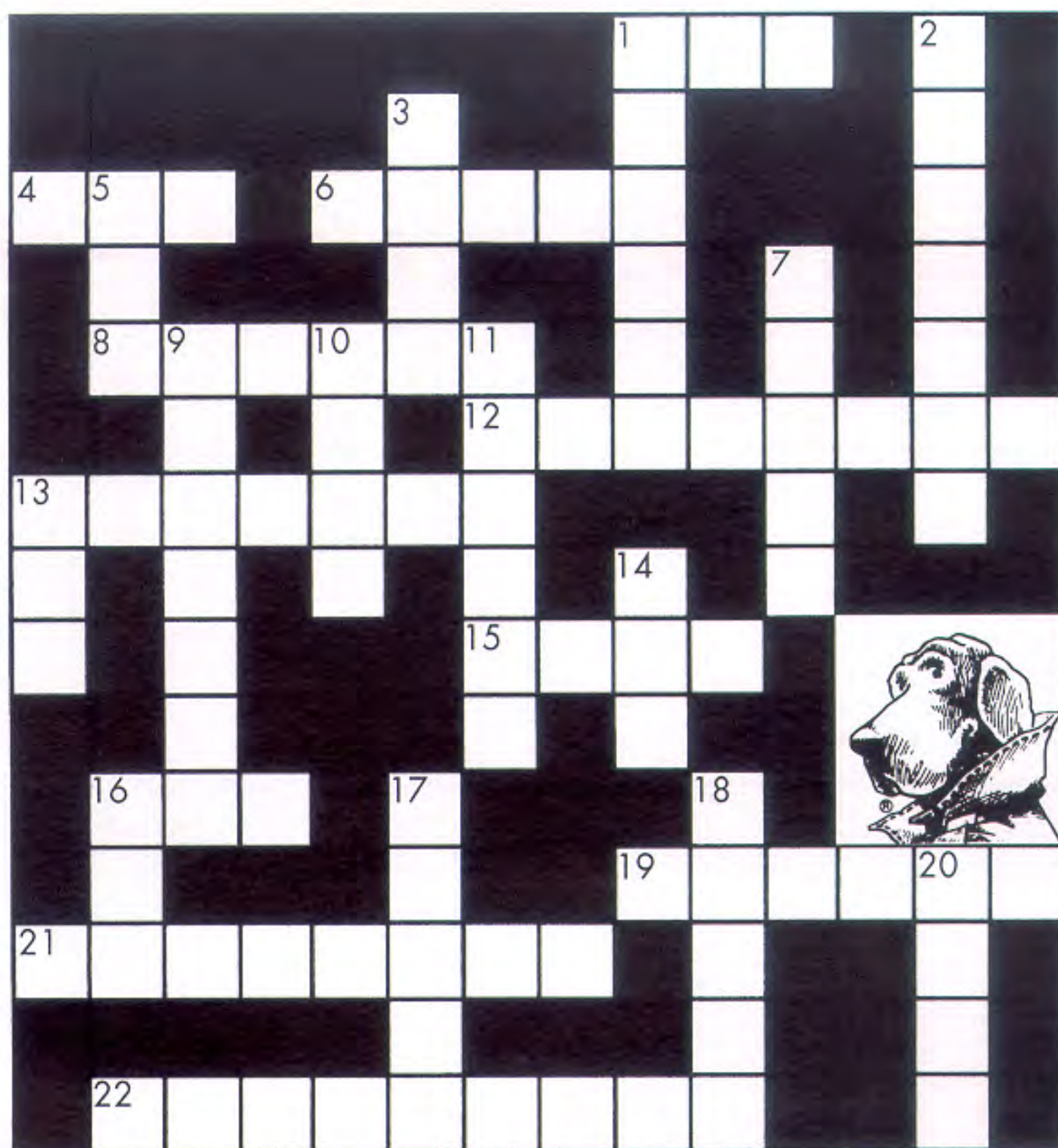
Forward ho! — Move forward and set your plan into motion. Congratulate yourselves. Decide that you will talk sometime soon about how well your plan worked.



Have fun while learning more about how to make peace. Work this crossword puzzle! (If you need help, the answers are on the back.) When you're done with the puzzle, flip over to the back and take the peace quiz! Remember, your being peaceful helps "take a bite out of crime!"



© 1985 The Advertising Council, Inc.



ACROSS

- 1. Hitting someone or using a gun or other weapon is a crime. Using violence is against the ____.
- 4. Never tease people because of their race, sex or abil ____.
- 6. Gun violence in TV shows, movies, and video _____ is fantasy — guns hurt and kill people in real life.
- 8. Jane _____ was the first American woman awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.
- 12. By handling a _____ nonviolently, you are helping McGruff "take a bite out a crime."
- 13. If you see a gun or other weapon, don't touch it. Tell a police _____, teacher or trusted adult.
- 15. One in _____ bullies ends up with a criminal record.
- 16. Count to _____ to calm yourself down during a conflict.
- 19. A kid your age is likely to become a _____ of a crime committed by someone else your age.
- 21. _____ is the second-leading cause of death for youth aged 10 to 19.
- 22. An "I" _____ is a way to state your feelings without accusing another person.

DOWN

- 1. Stop, look and _____ to start solving a problem calmly.
- 2. Every person deserves the _____ you would like to receive.
- 3. During a conflict with someone, state how you feel in an assertive, but _____ way.
- 5. You can manage your own conflicts, but it's OK to ask a _____ cher or trusted adult for help.

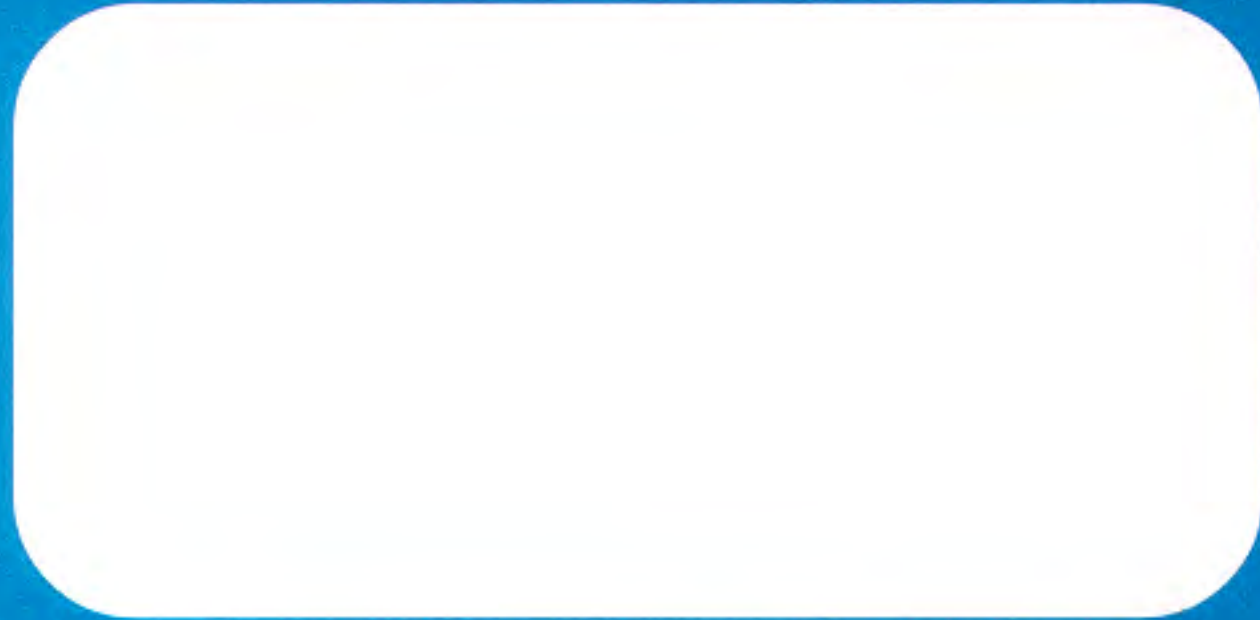
- 7. A _____ is a self-centered person concerned with his or her own pleasure.
- 9. Handguns are more likely to be used in suicide, homicide, or fatal accidents than to be used in self-_____.
- 10. Prejudice against people who seem different from you is caused by fear and ignor_____.
- 11. _____ is the nephew of McGruff the Crime Dog.
- 13. Never try to hurt any _____ — violence is for losers.
- 14. Never touch a _____ or other weapon at home, school, a friend's house or on the streets.
- 16. Every _____ hours a child in America is killed with a gun.
- 17. If you are having a conflict, it might help to _____ your feelings in a diary.
- 18. If you want attention, ask for it. Picking a _____ with someone will only get you negative attention.
- 20. If you understand your own and other's feel_____, you can manage conflicts more easily than kids who do not.



Information in this brochure was taken from *Helping Kids Handle Conflict*, National Crime Prevention Council, 1995.

The crossword puzzle and key were created using Crossword Express Pro for Windows (\$39.95), which makes puzzles from vocabulary lists and internal dictionaries. A free demo is available on the Internet World Wide Web at <<http://iquest.com/~pinnacle/software/cwe.shtml>>. Call Pinnacle Solutions at (205) 532-1024 or e-mail at <pinnacle@iquest.com>.

Permission to reprint parts or the whole publication may be obtained by writing or calling the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, Office of Public Information, 120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 1016, Chicago, IL 60606-3997; 312-793-8550; TDD: 312-793-4170.



For more information, contact:

McGRUFF

120 South Riverside Plaza
Suite 1016
Chicago, Illinois 60606-3997
Voice: (312) 793-8550
TDD: (312) 793-4170
www.icjia.state.il.us

TAKE A BITE OUT OF
CRIME



**ILLINOIS
CRIMINAL JUSTICE
INFORMATION AUTHORITY**

This project was supported by grant #99-JB-VX-0017 awarded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Printed on recycled paper by authority of the State of Illinois, April 2001.
Printing order #01-257/ 5,000 copies.

Do you know how to avoid potentially violent situations? Read the questions below, and then circle the answers. (When you're done, check the answers on the next panel.)

1. You and a friend are walking home when you see a gun on the sidewalk. What do you do?

- A. Pick up the gun and take it home.
- B. Pick up the gun and take it to school.
- C. Get away from the gun and immediately tell a police officer or teacher.
- D. Take the gun to a police officer or trusted adult.

2. A friend tells you she knows where to get a cheap gun and that she can get one for you. What do you do?

- A. Buy it. You need to protect yourself.
- B. Tell her you don't want a gun. Guns are dangerous and usually hurt innocent people.
- C. Tell her you don't want a gun, but you'd maybe like a knife instead.

3. You just saw a TV show in which two men were arguing over money. One man shot and wounded the other because he didn't get his way. The next day, you and a friend get into an argument over a game of basketball. Your friend won't listen to your side of the story. What do you do?

- A. Get angry. Throw the basketball at him and yell. He can be so stupid!
- B. Storm off and never speak to him again. Who needs him, anyway?
- C. Take a deep breath and calm down. It's just a game. The two of you can work it out.
- D. Hit him or threaten him with a gun or knife, just like on TV and in the movies.

4. A friend says he doesn't like you and doesn't want to hang out anymore. What do you do?

- A. Tell him "Good. I don't like you either."
- B. Hit him and run away.
- C. Try to figure out what's wrong. Repeat in your own words what he said: "You don't like me anymore?" Then ask, "Why not?"
- D. Nothing. There's nothing you can do.