


Stuck in the Middle

A Play About Three Friends

When you see the Talking Icon , stop and discuss that point or question in your group.

Character 1: Lea

Character 2: Megan (the middle friend)

Character 3: Tamia

Background: Lea, Megan and Tamia live in the same neighborhood and have been friends with each other since they met on the first day of kindergarten. They are always together.

Scenario: It's Friday. Lea is angry at Tamia because Tamia was hanging out with only Megan during lunch recess, playing a 2-person game. Lea also found out that Megan went over to Tamia's house after school and that made her even more upset because she wasn't invited.



Discussion: Why do you think Lea might be upset with Tamia?

Setting: (Monday morning during the snack break in class)

Lea: Hey Meg, come on over to my desk, I've got some cookies that I my mom baked yesterday that I'll share.

Megan: *(rubbing her tummy)* Mmmmmmmm...chocolate chip cookies, my favorite!!!

Lea: Here you go...3 for you and 3 for me. I'll save these others for later *(the extras are in a bag on Lea's desk)*

Tamia: I love cookies. Can I have one too? *(Tamia starts to pull her chair near the girls as she is asking for a cookie)*

Lea: No, I only have enough for Megan and me

Tamia: *(she looks at the bag of cookies and then at the girls, she is sad and her feelings are hurt)* Oh, but.....

Lea: Sorry Tamia *(Lea turns her head so that she's not looking at Tamia)* Yeah, so anyway Megan, do you want to play with me at lunch today?

(At this point, Megan can tell that there is something going on between Lea and Tamia. She notices that Lea is leaving Tamia out on purpose but doesn't understand why.)



Discussion: What could Megan do at this point?

Megan: Sure, what should we play? Got any ideas? Maybe Tamia can think of something. I'm so tired of playing the same thing all of the time!

Lea: Well, maybe you and I could just play tag, you know, just the two of us.

Megan: And Tamia too, right?

Lea: How about just you and me? She's getting on my nerves lately.



Discussion: What should Megan say at this point?

(After lunch, all of the kids go outside for recess. Lea sees Megan and Tamia walking out to the playground together. She runs over to Megan and grabs her arm.)

Lea: C'mon Megan, let's play our game now. Remember, you said you were only going to play with ME today.

(Tamia is really confused and sad. She doesn't understand what is wrong but she can tell that Lea is upset with her for something. Megan leaves to play with Lea but feels really bad about leaving her good friend out of the group.)



Discussion:

1. Should Megan have played with only Lea? Explain your reason for your answer.
2. How could Megan have handled the situation differently?
3. What would be the best thing for Lea to do if she is upset with Tamia?
4. When Tamia notices that Lea seems upset with her, what could she have done?
5. Megan is stuck in the middle between her two best friends, What could she do to help the situation?