3rd Month (Learning Focus Area #2)

- Many families are reluctant to address potential conflict issues during the first few weeks and months of the hosting experience. However, by the third month it’s important to address different types of conflict and resolution. Talk about various conflict styles (see for example *Intercultural Conflict Styles for AFS & Friends*, available in the ICL Digital Library at [afs.org](http://afs.org)) and help the family discover their own as well as their student’s preferences to address disagreements and other types of conflicts. This input should help everyone improve how to resolve conflicts that may arise. Referring back to the D.I.V.E. model (see Appendix), you could ask questions like these:
  - Have you noticed that you or one of the family members started doing something different in everyday life? Where does this change come from?
  - How would you describe how the relationship with your host student has developed over the last month?
  - Did you ever have a feeling that something didn’t go right and you didn’t know why? What did you observe? Describe the situation and interpret what happened. How can you verify this? How did you evaluate the situation then? How do you evaluate it now?
  - What do you think must happen to further strengthen the relationship between your family and the host student?

### HOST STUDENT AND FAMILY ACTIVITY

Ask both the student and the host family to review the Monthly Reflection Activities Handout 1 *‘Starting Life as a Family’* (in Appendix) they did right after arrival and discuss these questions:

- Were these conversations useful for discovering family life?
- What else have you learned since then about the functioning of the household?
- Are there new things we need to ask or explain?