



Friendship Lesson for Years 1 and 2

Sample lesson from Partnership for Children's Skills for Life programme, Zippy's Friends



Objective

To improve children's abilities to be a good friend



You need

- A book about friendship, suggestions [here](#)
- Puppet activity sheet for each child
- Colouring pens/pencils

5m



Starter - Saying something nice

- Sit with the children in a circle. Explain that each of us is going to say something nice about the person on our right hand side. You can start by saying something nice about the child on your right. Then ask that child to do the same for the child on her/his right – and so on round the circle.

5m



Introduction and agreement

- Tell the pupils that today we will be talking about friendships and what we can do to be a good friend.
- Discuss what being a friend means e.g. they play with us, we like to be with them, they make us feel better when we are sad.
- Refer to your schools PSHE agreement or other relevant rules for running open and confidential lessons. Alternatively, ask the pupils to suggest some rules for the session that will support everyone to feel comfortable e.g. you only have to speak if you want to, one person speaks at a time, we only say nice and positive things to each other. Talk about why these are helpful rules to have in the session.

15m



Activity 1: My Friend

- Explain to the children that they are going to make a puppet of one of their friends and afterwards introduce the puppet to the class.
- If a child says that they don't have a friend, suggest that they think of everyone they know, and then ask them to choose one. Explain that our friends can be members of our own family, someone outside of school or someone in school.
- Ask the children to draw their friend on the paper puppet.
- Ask them who would like to introduce their friend, describe how they became friends and things they enjoy doing together.

15m



Activity 2: What can we do to be a Good Friend?

- Explain to the children that we have to take care to be a good friend.
- Ask what we should not do, so as not to lose our friends.

If the children do not have any ideas, you can suggest things such as - call them names, hurt them, fight with them, ignore them.

- Ask them what we can do to be a good friend, and write these ideas on the board.

If the children do not have any ideas, you can suggest things such as - say nice things to them, listen to them when they have problems, play with them, hold hands or give them a hug.

- The children can draw or write some of their ideas on the back of the puppet worksheet.

10m



Reflection

- Read a book about friendship to highlight and reflect on some of the key themes explored within the lesson plan.
- Partnership for Children's [Good Books for Tough Times](#), section on Friendships and Differences has some suggestions.

For more information about Partnership for Children's *Skills for Life* programmes please visit www.partnershipforchildren.org.uk