

Preschool Theme Kits FRIENDS II



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BOOKS

Friends Go Adventuring
Helme Heine
The Berenstain Bears and the
Trouble with Friends
Stan & Jan Berenstain

I Have a Sister – My Sister is Deaf Jeanne Peterson

Why Am I Different?

Norma Simon

The Doorbell Rang
Pat Hutchins

Jamaica Tag-Along (Book with CD)

Juanita Havill

Extraordinary Friends

Fred Rogers

Susan Laughs

Jeanne Willis

The Little Red Hen Byron Barton

DVD

Dragon Tales: It's Cool to Be Me!

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TOY

Memory Fun Game

ADULT RESOURCES

The Eentsy Weentsy Spider: Fingerplays and Action Rhymes Joanna Cole

ACTIVITY NOTEBOOK

BEYOND THE KITS -STORYTIME HANDBOOK Welcome to the *Friends II* Theme Kit. Our target age group is 2 to 5 year olds but we have included at least one board book for babies to use. All these books read aloud well, and there are activities, finger plays, and teacher guides to help you. Also, take a look at the general information sheet on the inside cover of this notebook. ENJOY!

Related Activities

FOR YOU: a copy of these activities is available in back of this notebook.

-Fun and Games-

NEW FRIENDSHIPS *

To encourage new friendship (even with children that have been together for a long time), try pairing up two children who normally do not play with each other. Have them help you cook or set the table. They can do a special errand or play a game together (like the game included in this kit). Sharing experiences can help bridge gaps and open up the possibility of new friendships.

STORIES TO TALK ABOUT *

Each book in this kit lends itself to many interesting and inviting discussions around friendship. After reading one, you can open up a time for discussion with a broad statement like "When have you ever felt like that?" or "Do you have any friends or family members with special needs like in this story?" Be sure to read every story to yourself before you read it to the children, so you can ask questions at the end. Reading the whole book through for the children, before discussing it, makes for a more enjoyable story time, too.

NON-COMPETITIVE GAMES

For young children, games that are cooperative and non-competitive are very important. Such games encourage the chance to try without fear of failure. They encourage friendship and empathy. Play easy beanbag games: put on some music and children walk in a circle each with a beanbag on their heads; switch to shoulders, under the chin, etc. Or have children sit in pairs, facing each other with legs spread apart and roll a ball back and forth.

There are books on non-competitive games. Ask your local librarian or choose General Keywords in our catalog and enter "games" and "cooperativeness".



WHOSE VOICE IS IT? *

Set out a tape recorder and tape everyone's voice (adults' too). Keep a list in order so you know who is who. After everyone has had a chance to be recorded, call the group together and play the tape back. Let the children guess who is talking! This is a great activity for developing listening skills.

SURPRISE BOX **

Let children practice identifying objects with the sense of touch. Hide objects inside an old tissue box or soft bag and have children put a hand inside (no peeking). See if they can identify the object by touch. Let them choose objects to put into the box/bag too.

TRY IT OUT! **

If possible, rent a child's wheelchair and let each child spend some time in it. After they have all tried the chair, talk about what was different for them. You can also blindfold a child and have them use a cane to take them around an area of the room. Make sure they are supervised and do not hurt themselves.



*Activities courtesy of the Early Childhood Office of the Seattle Public Library. **Used with permission from King County Library System.

-Fingerplays and Action Rhymes-

WHERE IS THUMBKIN?

Where is Thumbkin?
Where is Thumbkin?
Here I am!
Here I am!
How are you today, friend?
Very well, I thank you.
Run away. Run away.

Continue with Pointer, Middler, Ring Finger, and Pinky (or Baby)

F

Hide both hands behind back

Bring out one hand, Then other, thumbs up. Nod one finger toward other Nod other finger Hands behind back, one by one.

Continue verses using index, middle, ring, and little fingers in order.

Circle thumb to index finger, forming each hand like a cup Fist upright, with thumb out like spout "Pour" with fist into other "cup" Use second fist, pour into other "cup" Take a sip, from "cupped" hand

HERE'S A CUP

Here's a cup
And here's a cup.
And here's a pot of tea.
Pour a cup
And pour a cup
And have a drink with me!



MAKING NEW FRIENDS**

Good day, everybody
Nod to others
Good day, everybody,
Good day, good day, good day.
Smile, everybody
Smile at others
Smile everybody,
Let's chase the blues away.
Shake hands, everybody
Shake hands with others
Shake hands, everybody,
Let's make new friends today!

LITTLE SALLY WATERS

One child sits in the center of the circle while the others hold hands circling and singing. Child rises, wipes eyes, flies one direction and then the other, and then picks a child (the one you love best) to be the next Sally. Could sing "Sammy" for a unisex name. Continue until all have a turn.

Little Sally Waters sitting in a saucer Rise, Sally, rise. Wipe your weeping eyes. Fly to the east, Sally Fly to the west, Sally Fly to the one you love the best!

Friends II Theme Kit

Questions or Suggestions:

Call the Youth Services Dept. at (360) 384-3150

How You Can Help

- Use and return kits promptly so that they are available for others.
- Please check box contents before returning.
- Do not use the book drop. Please return kits inside an open library.