

Friendship

Companion Text: If You See the Moon, by Zia Wells

Subject Area & Grade Level: Social Studies, Kindergarten

Objectives

After this lesson, students will be able to:

- Explain why it's important to have friends
- List at least three ways to demonstrate friendship

Introduction

Read the story all the way through once without stopping. Then, ask students to tell you what the story was about, and lead them into noticing how it is a story about friendship. Ask students to name some reasons that it is important to have friends. Mention that having friends can keep people from feeling lonely because it is fun to spend time together, and that we can also learn new things from our friends.

Procedure

Ask for suggestions of how a person can be a good friend. Pair up students and have them spontaneously act out skits demonstrating ways to show friendship. As a class, try to brainstorm a list of at least eight to twelve ideas, such as:

- listening closely to what someone says,
- inviting them to play with you,
- trying out something new together,
- telling them the truth,
- saying you're sorry if you hurt them,
- forgiving them if they hurt you,
- sharing your ideas with them, or
- solving a problem together.

Discussion

After everyone has had a chance to act out a way to demonstrate friendship, ask students to close their eyes and think back over the skits they had just seen. Tell them to try to remember as many ideas from the skits as they can, and to choose three ways to demonstrate friendship that they could try themselves for real. Ask a few (or all, if you have time) of the students to share which three ideas they like the best, and plan to use in their own lives.

