



## Friendship

**FRIENDSHIP** is a relationship between two or more people who enjoy being together.

### Activity 1

Discuss the meaning of **FRIENDSHIP** with your child. Explain that friendship is a relationship between two or more people that brings out the best in them. Make a chart with two columns titled “DO” and “DON’T”. Ask your child to list things that help build friendships and those that can destroy a friendship. (DO: be kind, laugh, play, help with homework, etc.; DON’T: criticize, yell, hurt, be rude, etc.) Post the list to remind your child how to build good and lasting friendships. Ask your child how he or she can be a better friend.

### Activity 2

Discuss the importance of being and having a true friend. Ask your child if he or she were hungry, would he or she want to bite into a plastic fake apple or a juicy real one. If given a choice, would he or she rather have a \$1 bill or a photocopy of a \$1000 bill? Have your child tell you the difference between a “REAL FRIEND” and a “FAKE FRIEND”. Ask your child to consider his or her own friends and decide if they are real or fake. Help him or her learn that real friends bring out the best in us and influence us to do good. Ask your child the following question: If someone were testing your friendship – would it be real or fake?

### Activity 3

Discuss with your child ways to resolve problems that may arise between friends. Help him or her understand that sometimes friends may disagree, but that should not interfere with a good friendship. Part of being a good friend includes learning to understand each other and to forgive when mistakes are made. Share a story from your life about a friend you disagreed with and how you were able to continue being friends.

### Activity 4

Talk with your child about how it feels to have, and not have, friends. Have your child imagine what it would be like if he or she has moved and does not know anyone in his or her new school. Ask him or her to describe how he or she would feel about going to school and identify specific worries such as: “What if I get lost?” “Will I sit alone at lunch?” “What if people are mean to me?” Ask your child what he or she could do to help a child in this situation. Encourage your child to be the kind of friend he or she would hope to find if he or she was the new kid at school.

### Activity 5

Together with your child, create an advertisement for a new friend, including the qualities you believe are important in your child’s friends. At the top of the ad, include the title: Wanted: New Friend. Let your child have fun imagining his or her perfect friend. Reinforce that the best way to have a good friend is to BE a good friend, like the one in his or her advertisement.