

Our Friends

Talk about our friends are and what makes them special

You will need

- Photographs of your friends and your child's friends



! Why this activity is important

- Chatting together helps your child to learn that conversations are a fun thing to do! Developing this sense of fun around conversations helps them to initiate and take part in them too, a great skill for friendship building.
- Talking about friends and why they are special helps your child build up an understanding of important describing words.



Playing together

- Show your child the photos you've chosen and ask them to point to a particular one to start talking about.

Where is.....?

Pick up the photo of....

- Talk about the friend in the photograph, including their name and some of the things you have done together.

Do you remember when we went to the park?

When.....came to your party, wasn't that fun?



- You could print out photographs of friends and put them in a special basket or box to encourage more chats about them.

Teddy Bears' Picnic

It's time for a picnic with your child's teddies and toys



You will need

- Teddy bears and toys
- Rug and cutlery
- Picnic food (real or pretend)



Playing together

- Choose together which teddies and toys are coming to the picnic. Think where you will have your picnic and layout the rug out. You could also create invitations for the teddies.

- Help your child organise their teddies around the rug.

You sit there Ted next to my dolly. It's a special friends picnic and you can all come.

- Plan together what food you will have for your picnic.

*I know you like cheese sandwiches so shall we have some of these?
What do you think big ted may like to eat?*

- Help your child have a go at putting food on dishes and plates to take to the rug.
- Enjoy your picnic together.

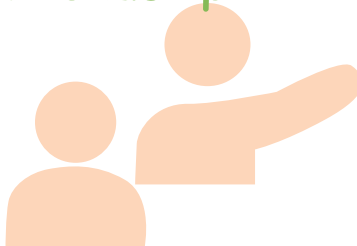
*What would your doll like to eat first?
Teddy please can you pass the crisps?*

! Why this activity is important

- Imaginative play is great practice for real life. Through a teddy bears picnic, children are learning skills that promote positive friendships such as sharing, initiating activities and making conversation.

Storytime: Friends

Time to share stories about friendship



You will need

Books about friendship:

- *Supertato* by Sue Hendra
- *The Rainbow Fish* by Marcus Pfister
- *Do you want to be my friend?* by Eric Carle
- *Elmer* by David McKee
- *Arnie the Doughnut* by Laurie Keller
- *Hedhugs* by Steve Wilson and Lucy Tapper



! Why this activity is important

- Reading books about friends helps your child build up an idea of what being a friend is, how it makes you feel and the kind of things you can do with a friend.



Playing together

- Either collect your own books about friendship or choose the ones online you would like to read.
- Find somewhere that you can get comfy to look at the books together.
- Start by pointing to and talking about what is happening in the pictures.
- Repeat words related to friendship which are in the book e.g. love, play, kind, laugh, happy, care, miss.

Look, she misses her friends. Can you see them playing together?

- Ask your child simple sentences from the pictures in the books and give them lots of time to think and reply. 'Where are his friends?' 'What game is she playing with her friends?'