

Early Stage 1 – Unit 3

How do we make friends?

The following units of work for Early Stage 1 provide suggested activities to facilitate students' understanding of diversity through an inquiry framework. They emphasise belonging, respect for and appreciation of difference and empathy for others. Students learn about and practice being a good friend and the behaviours that protect both themselves and others from bullying.

Note: Teachers should consider and be sensitive to the needs of specific students when planning these activities.

The subject matter includes:

- groups we belong to including families, classes and community
- appreciating and accepting our differences
- characteristics that make a good friend
- keeping myself and others safe from bullying.

The units can be used to support the following syllabus areas and suggested outcomes.



Syllabus links

- Personal Development, Health and Physical Education
- Human Society and its Environment
- English
- Mathematics



Outcomes

Hte-1 Communicates stories of their family heritage and the heritage of others.

MAe-9MG Describes and compares lengths and distances using everyday language.

IRES1.11 Identifies how individuals care for each other.

INES1.13 Relates well to others in work and play situations.

V1 Refers to a sense of their own worth and dignity.

V2 Respects the right of others to hold different values and attitudes from their own.

V3 Enjoys a sense of belonging.

ENe-1A Communicates with peers and known adults in informal and guided activities demonstrating emerging skills of group interaction.

ENe-2A Composes simple texts to convey an idea or message.

ENe-4A Demonstrates developing skills and strategies to read, view and comprehend short, predictable texts on familiar topics in different media and technologies.

ENe-8B Demonstrates emerging skills and knowledge of texts to read and view, and shows developing awareness of purpose, audience and subject matter.

ENe-11D Responds to and composes simple texts about familiar aspects of the world and their own experiences.



Broad focus for an inquiry: Personal and social capability, family

Generative questions

- What is a friend?
- How do I relate to others who have different characteristics or experiences to me?
- How can I be a good friend in the classroom and playground?

Understandings, skills and values

- Appraise and compare similar and different values held by others.
- Build an understanding of why individual and group values may be similar or different.
- Be able to justify personal responses.

Tuning in

What is a friend?

Whole class discussion to create a Y-chart (looks like, sounds like, feels like) for friendship.

Class shared reading of picture books that develop themes around friendship.

Some examples include:

- *Yo! Yes?* by Chris Raschka
- *A Hot Cup of Chocolate* by Rose Stanley.

Finding out

How can I be a good friend?

Review friendship Y chart. Class discussion about what good friends do. Students work in pairs and act out being a good friend. Teacher gives signal to 'freeze' and taps random pair on the shoulder to demonstrate their friendship moment. Teacher can prompt students with scenarios such as taking turns, playing a game, helping a friend or including a friend in a game. Invite class comments on each situation.

Sorting out

Friendship picture book

Students each write a sentence and contribute an artwork to a class picture book about friends to express ideas they have developed in the previous two activities.

Going further

Being a good friend

Students play games/activities that involve cooperation, for example, throwing and catching a ball, tunnel ball or captain ball. Have a group discussion about how well they cooperated together. Develop a list of behaviours for being a good friend. Photograph students demonstrating friendship behaviours to display in the classroom.

Concluding and acting

Protecting myself and others from bullying

Play Alien Adventure: this app tells the story of an alien arriving from another planet and starting school. He learns how to get on at school and with his friends. The app can be found on [Bullying. No Way!](#)