



# Extend the hand of friendship



This resource supports programs designed to develop friendship skills in an early childhood classroom. It consists of seven printable sheets, including this page of suggestions:

Page 1: Suggestions

Page 2: Friendship poster to display, read, discuss

Page 3: Friends poster to display, read, discuss

Page 4: Friendship poster – children add their own handprint to personalise and affirm the intent of the poster

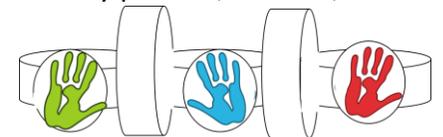
Page 5: Friendship poster – children write their own *friendship* acrostic poem and add their handprint to create a personalized *friendship* poster

Page 6: Friends poster – children write their own *friends* acrostic poem and add their handprint to create a personalized *friends* poster

Page 7: *If friends were flowers* poster to display in the classroom

## Additional suggestions:

- Discuss what friendship means, and the things friends do. List all of the suggestions; for example, friends play with each other, friends are nice to each other, friends help each other.
- Write a collaborate acrostic poem about friends, or friendship.
- Model and role play asking to join in a game, or asking someone to play.
- Discuss and role play feelings when someone is included and someone is left out. Discuss the importance of ensuring everyone is included. Include “What would you do if” questions such as:
  - you saw someone sitting alone, looking sad and lonely?
  - you were that person sitting alone?
  - you saw someone being mean?
  - someone was being mean to you?
  - someone suggested you be mean to someone else?
- Introduce children to the [high-5](#) suggestions for being friendly, and resilient, in the playground.
- Make a friendship chain to display in the classroom.
  1. Cut enough sheets of A4 paper lengthwise into 4 equal strips so that there are twice as many as there are children in the class.
  2. Cut enough sheets of A4 paper in half for each child to have one A5 sheet of paper.
  3. Distribute one strip and one A5 sheet of paper to each child. Children trace a hand on the A5 sheet and cut it out. They paste it, centred, on the strip of paper and write their name on it. They then paste the ends together to form a link.
  4. Join the links of two children together with a blank strip, stapling to join. Continue until all hands are joined.
  5. Be sure to add links for each new child joining the class.



## Extend the hand of friendship



**F**riends

**R**espect each other

**I**nclude each other

**E**njoy being together

**N**otice how others are feeling

**D**ecide things together

**S**hare

**H**elp each other

**I**nvoke others to

**P**lay

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# I extend my hand in friendship

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**F**riends

**R**espect each other

**I**nclude each other

**E**njoy being together

**N**otice how others are feeling

**D**ecide things together

**S**hare

**H**elp each other

**I**nvoke others to

**P**lay

# I extend my hand in friendship

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**F** \_\_\_\_\_  
**R** \_\_\_\_\_  
**I** \_\_\_\_\_  
**E** \_\_\_\_\_  
**N** \_\_\_\_\_  
**D** \_\_\_\_\_  
**S** \_\_\_\_\_  
**H** \_\_\_\_\_  
**I** \_\_\_\_\_  
**P** \_\_\_\_\_

# I extend my hand in friendship

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**F** \_\_\_\_\_

**R** \_\_\_\_\_

**I** \_\_\_\_\_

**E** \_\_\_\_\_

**N** \_\_\_\_\_

**D** \_\_\_\_\_

**S** \_\_\_\_\_

if friends were flowers,

i'd pick you!

