

What a Good Friend Does
A Lesson on Friendship
Grades 1-3

Goal: Students will learn the difference between treating others with respect and using others as a means to an end. Activities will reinforce the qualities of a good friend, and what each of our responsibility is toward others. Topics will include being kind to everyone especially those who are in need of friends, and gossiping.

Lesson: Begin by talking with the students about friendship. God made us all in his image, and he is Trinity. In the Trinity, there are 3 persons though only one God. This means that God is always living in the most perfect friendship within himself. Difficult to understand at times, but it means for us that God created us to be in friendship with others all the time.

Excellent [resources for teaching friendship skills](#), including discussion topics, brainstorming, and classroom activities.

Discussion: What does it mean to be a good friend?

What are some of the qualities you like in friends?

What are some of the qualities you try to have yourself to be a good friend to others?

Use “Resources for Teaching Friendship Skills” as a conversation starter.

Activity: Ask the students to think about their friendships and fill in the “[Friendship Chart](#)” with words or drawings. Tell them that part of being a good friend is recognizing the good qualities in other people.

Watch: “[Pixar Tennis Birds](#)” short video. Play on mute to avoid commercial content. 30 seconds.


Talk about negative influences to friendships. Why is laughing at someone else or sharing secrets harmful to friendship? What can we learn from the Golden Rule?

Watch:

[Frog and Toad--the Letter](#), 4 minute video of the classic children's book by Arnold Lobel

[Frog and Toad--Cookies](#), 4 minute video of the classic children's book by Arnold Lobel

[Frog and Toad--the Garden](#), 5 minute video of the classic children's book by Arnold Lobel

 [Frog and Toad Activity Kit.pdf](#) resources for studying stories throughout the curriculum. This includes games that students can play at home with their families.

Discussion: What makes Frog and Toad such good friends? What qualities do they have that make them care for each other so much? What can we do to gain those qualities to be a good friend? Should we be friends to just those people that we know and like? Or does Jesus ask us to go out of our way to be friends with people who don't have friends and might get left out. That is hard. How can we do it with a smile?

Prayer:

Heavenly Father,
You created us in your image of love and friendship.
Help us to be good friends to everyone we meet.
Help us to share what we have with those without;
Help us to be kind to those in need;
Help us to be loyal to friends who trust us.
You showed us that good friends will do anything for each other.
And that friendship is important to be a good Christian.
We ask you to send your love into our hearts.
Let us know you always love us.
Help us to share your love with all of our friends.
AMEN.

Teachers' Note: This day's activities correspond with the study of Human Trafficking for the older grades. Part of this discussion focused on keeping kids safe, particularly on the internet. On the website, you will find resources for internet safety for kids of all ages. Please review these and share them with your class parents as appropriate.

Additional resources: Internet Safety [Resources for Teachers for all Age levels](#)