

RESPECTING OTHERS

GRADES PK-K - Lesson I (Year III, Day 4)

Goal: To introduce children to friendship, with a particular focus on how to be a good friend by treating others with respect and love.

Materials:

drawing paper

crayons and markers

optional: scissors, yarn, buttons, pipe cleaners, fabric, glitter, etc.

Lesson: Have the children gather in a circle on the floor. Play and sing [The More We Get Together](#) and [This is the Way We Make Friends](#). Explain that God created us and wants us to love other people. One way to do that is by being friends with them.

- Ask students to share ways that they can be good friends.
- Ask students what can be done when someone hurts their feelings.
- Discuss what can be done if they hurt someone's feelings. Emphasize the importance of asking forgiveness and making sure not to make the same mistake again.
- Practice apologizing and accepting apologies in class.

Introduce the word 'charity'. Charity, or love, means loving God with all your heart, mind, and strength and your neighbor as yourself.

Activity: Practice charity! Take turns acting out what to do:

- Your friend says, "Let's play this game instead."
- Mom says, "It's time for Church."
- A classmate is playing alone.
- It is time for bed. Say your prayers!
- Someone falls down and gets hurt.

Watch: Show students the following [video](#) on Charity, [Winnie the Pooh's Friendship Song](#), and [Sesame Street's How to be a Good Friend](#).

Discussion:

- Ask students to describe a good friend. What did the Winnie the Pooh video show the characters doing? How could you tell that they were good friends? Ask students to share a game or activity that they enjoy doing with friends.
- How did Baby Bear and Zoe solve their disagreement and decide what to do? Ask students what they would have done in similar situations.

Activity: Being a good listener is a great way to show charity and be a good friend. This activity will incorporate this reality by having students draw pictures of a peer's favorite activities. Divide students into pairs, encouraging them to pair with someone they may not know very well. Give each student a piece of paper and materials. Write Partner A's name in the middle of the paper. Then, tell Partner B to ask about Partner A's favorite foods, colors, toys, sports, and animals. After Partner B listens attentively, ask Partner B to depict these favorite things in bubbles around Partner A's name. Then, make the partners switch roles.

Activity: Have students decorate the [Following Jesus Coloring Page](#) or [Friendship Coloring Page](#)

Prayer:

Lord, you made me for friendship. Help me to know that I am never alone. You are with me always. Help me to be a good friend to the friends I have now and the new friends I will make. When I see someone who does not have any friends, help me make the effort to reach out and be a great friend. Help me to forgive when friends hurt my feelings. Let me always say true, nice things about my friends. Please show me how to share Your love with my 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 [this 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. Please review these and share them with your class parents as appropriate. Attached is the download page for an example [powerpoint](#) (appropriate for grades K-2).*

Lesson adapted from the plans on the Archdiocese of Los Angeles Office of Life, Justice and Peace and the Nashville Dominicans "Virtues in Practice" Program