

Social and Emotional Learning

Lesson Title: Friendship Values

Grade Level: Middle School

Project and Purpose

Students determine what they value most in a friend and create an artistic expression of those values.

Essential Question

What are the values to look for in a good friend?

Materials

- Friendship Values Chart
- Scissors
- Tape
- Large construction paper
- Other art materials as needed for project (e.g., markers, crayons, colored pencils, old photos, magazines to cut out images, computer access to images to print out, etc.)

Teacher

Note: This project will take 2 sessions.

1. Tell students that today's session will concentrate on friendship values. This will require a discussion of the concept of values. *Merriam Webster Dictionary* defines the values this session will focus on as: something (such as a principle or quality) intrinsically valuable or desirable. *The English Oxford Dictionary's* definition is: The regard that something is held to deserve; the importance, worth, or usefulness of something.
2. Ask students to spend a minute to write a personal list of the things they value most in a friend. This may be done in their journals or on a separate piece of paper.
3. At the one minute mark, ask students to stop writing and find a partner they trust to share and discuss their lists. Distribute one Friendship Values Chart and a pair of scissors to each set of partners. Give students time to review the charts and ask questions. The blank spaces are for them to add values they believe are missing on the chart.
4. Their tasks:
 - On the grid lines, cut apart the values on the chart.
 - Work with partner to put all of the values in order of importance to them. They may disagree, so there may be a few values that are side by side or they may create two orders, or they may work it out using accountable talk.
 - When they have set values in order, they will come up to the teacher for tape and a large piece of construction paper to tape their order down to create an original chart.
 - They will use art supplies as provided to add details, examples, or illustrations to their original charts. These should not be merely decorative; these should add meaning or clarify their thoughts on the values and the order of importance.

Friendship Values Chart

Using the line provided, cut out the values and arrange them in order of importance. Blank spaces have been provided for additional values you feel should be represented.

Good listener	Raises you up (doesn't put you down)	Understands your moods and feelings
Connected to the right people	Can disagree without hurting you	Dependable
Respectful	Trustworthy	Listens to good music
Gives you room to grow and change	Caring	Honest and truthful without being hurtful
Good sense of humor	Likes to do the same things you like to do	Includes others in your group
Tries new things with you	Teaches you new things	Accepts you for who you are
Fearless	Stylish	Willing to stand up for what they believe in
Kind	Helps when you have a problem	Is nice to my family
Good listener		