



You've Got a Friend in Me Post Workshop Lesson Plan for Reception & Year 1

Art Lesson

Learning objectives:

To develop language, literacy and artistic skills.

Introduction: (5 minutes)

Begin with a class discussion about the You've Got a Friend in Me workshop to refresh the children's memories about what they have learnt about being a good friend; from the puppet show and the friendship photographs that they created in the drama role-play exercise.

First activity – Friendship Tree (5 minutes)

Introduce the idea of the friendship tree to the class. Show the children the leaf (made from a piece of card) that they will be asked to write a message on for someone else in the class. Explain that the message they write will be something kind about someone else in their class. They can then decorate the leaf and place their leaf on the friendship tree.

The idea is to encourage the children to notice good acts of friendship amongst their peers and for them to acknowledge this by writing them a message and adding it to the friendship tree.

Main activity: Writing the messages on the leaves and decorating the leaves. (30 – 40 minutes)

All of the names of the children in the class are written on small pieces of paper and placed in a hat. Each child takes it in turn to come to the front of the class and pick a name from the hat.

When they have picked a name, they can think of a message that they can write for that person. For the children in Reception, some of the writing on the leaf could be prepared in advanced:

I like ...

because ...

The children in Year 1 they may be able to write the whole sentence independently or some may need assistance.

When the children have finished writing the messages they can decorate the leaves. As the leaf is a gift for one of their peers, encourage the children to write beautifully and to take their time when decorating their leaf. If they have time, the children could make another leaf for a person of their choice and add this to the tree.



Extension activities:

The friendship tree activity can be on-going throughout a term or even a year. The teachers and teaching assistants can also add leaves to the tree when they notice children being kind, supportive, caring, doing good sharing for example. The messages on the tree could be reviewed at the end of each week. This may also be an incentive for certain children to become a better friend if they struggle with this part of school life.

Review (5 minutes)

Invite a few children to read out their messages to the rest of the class and ask the children to look out for examples of good friendship so that they can all make more friendship leaves and add them to the tree.



