

CHOOSE TO BE NICE[®]

LEARNING ACTIVITY GUIDE - SECOND GRADE

FRIENDSHIP



FELIPE THE FRIENDSHIP MOUSE
remembers that the friendlier he is
the more fun he has.



WHAT'S INSIDE?

- Student-centered activities designed to promote lifelong social and emotional intelligence
- Book recommendations + literacy activities
- Home connections + tips for parents

**CHOOSE
TO BE NICE[®]**



Welcome to the Second Grade Friendship Learning Activities!

This month, your school community will be emphasizing the importance of friendship. Use this Learning Activity Guide to help students understand and embrace friendship through an engaging video or audio recording, a children’s book, a lesson, discussion questions, extension ideas, bonus materials, and at-home engagement. These fun and student-centered activities are cross-curricular and include opportunities for children to collaborate and work independently, exercise their literacy skills and creativity, and develop social and emotional awareness.

The Choose To Be Nice® school program is a comprehensive and engaging SEL (social and emotional learning) program that focuses on the nine important values of respect, kindness, acceptance, teamwork, honesty, responsibility, friendship, patience, and courage. Schools focus on one value per month, and all program components are designed to foster empathy, kindness, and lifelong values that will help children become resilient and compassionate individuals. All learning activities are aligned with the five core social-emotional learning competencies identified by CASEL (Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning), the nation’s leading organization advancing the development of academic, social, and emotional competence for all students. As students go through the Choose To Be Nice program and learn and practice the Choose To Be Nice values, they are building their skills in the five competencies: self-management, self-awareness, responsible decision making, relationship skills, and social awareness.



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GETTING STARTED

OUR VALUES

Choose To Be Nice promotes its mission with these nine important values:

RESPECT - be polite and show consideration for others and their differences

KINDNESS - be nice and friendly to people wherever you go

ACCEPTANCE - appreciate and recognize people for who they are

TEAMWORK - collaborate and work together with others

HONESTY - be truthful and fair

RESPONSIBILITY - be accountable for your own actions

FRIENDSHIP - be a friendly companion other people want to be around

PATIENCE - be calm and understand that some things take time and endurance

COURAGE - be brave and dare to be nice even when it's hard

GETTING STARTED

ONLINE RESOURCES

Resources for educators and families are available to download on our website.

Educator Resources Page: The entire Choose To Be Nice curriculum, along with supporting documents, additional student worksheets, at home activity guides, bonus materials, and this guide, are all available on our website on the Educator Resources Page. To access materials visit: www.choosetobenice.com/educator-resources. Use password: **CTBNschool25-26**.



Family Resources Page: Please be sure to direct your families to our online **Family Resources Page**, where we have additional engaging and fun at home activities for families, as well as tips and other resources. Families can access the activities at: www.choosetobenice.com/home-community-resources/.



GETTING STARTED

SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

Here is a suggested schedule to follow for Second Grade Friendship Month:

Prior To Week One:

- Send home the Choose To Be Nice At Home Activity Book (Second Grade Friendship) available on the Educator Resources Page
- Have books from the suggested book list readily available for your students

Week One:

- Play Felipe's video found on the Educator Resources Page
- Practice the Friendship Chant
- Friendship Learning Activity: Buddy Book Making

Week Two:

- Have Group Discussions about friendship

Week Three:

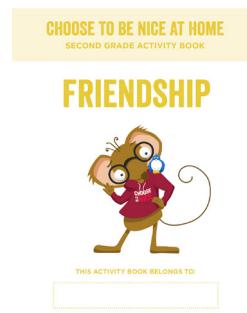
- Have students reflect on and write about friendship during journal time. Journal covers and pages are available to download from the Educator Resources Page

Week Four:

- Friendship Extension Activity

CHOOSE TO BE NICE AT HOME ACTIVITY BOOK

Essential to adopting any new behaviors is making sure the learning reaches home. **Choose To Be Nice At Home Activity Books** help to reinforce the Choose To Be Nice values and encourage positive dialogue at home. Each Guide includes a note to parents/guardians, a fun activity, a chant for younger students, discussion questions, a coloring page and a poster. Be sure to send this guide home prior to starting this month's learning activities.



FELIPE THE FRIENDSHIP MOUSE VIDEO

In this short video, **Felipe the Friendship Mouse** introduces younger students to the concept of friendship through everyday examples and builds excitement for additional learning and exploration. The video includes a chant to help kids remember to share a smile and say hello and offers a foundation for classroom discussions and activities on friendship. Be sure to play this video prior to starting this month's learning activities.



FELIPE THE FRIENDSHIP MOUSE CHANT

Each Choose To Be Nice value has a chant to help younger students in PreK-2 remember key concepts. Here is Felipe The Friendship Mouse's chant:

Share a smile, say hello

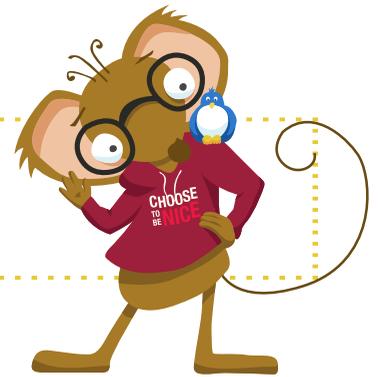
Felipe is friendly wherever he goes!

All At Home Activity Guides, videos, and chants are available on our website on the [Educator Resources Page](#). Password is CTBNschool25-26.

FELIPE THE FRIENDSHIP MOUSE remembers that the friendlier he is the more fun he has.

BOOK SUGGESTION:

Days With Frog And Toad, By Arnold Lobel



LEARNING ACTIVITY: Buddy Book Making

SUBJECT CONNECTIONS: English Language Arts, Visual Arts

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Copies of the Buddy Book
- Crayons for drawing and
- Pencils for writing
- Safety Scissors
- Stapler

INSTRUCTIONS: Introduce students to Felipe the Friendship Mouse by playing Felipe's video. Next, read **Days with Frog And Toad** together.

After reading, open up a discussion with students about the sequence of events in the book. Emphasize how important it is to not only enjoy spending time with a friend, but to also enjoy doing things independently. Point out how important it is that in the end Frog and Toad are still best friends, even if they aren't doing the same thing together. Ask children to share when they like to do activities by themselves, and when they like to be with friends. Also ask them to think about a time when they had to make new friends.

Following the class discussion, have students pair up (encourage students to work with someone new, or select partners for them). Explain that they will make a book about friendship. Pass out copies of the Buddy Book and have students fill out the pages together. Explain to students that the Buddy Book activity will help them get to know each other better, by talking about what they each like to do, and exploring similarities and differences. Have students write and illustrate one thing that they would like to do together and one thing they each like to do separately. Then have them brainstorm three ways to be a good friend. Remind students to write in complete sentences. When students are finished, pass out scissors and have them cut out the pages for the book. Then, have them staple the pages together.

When students are finished assembling their books, invite them to present their Buddy Book to the class. After students have presented, put the Buddy Books in the classroom library for students to read and admire throughout the year, reminding them about how to be a good friend.

Use with SECOND GRADE **FRIENDSHIP** activity: **Buddy Book Making**



Buddy Book

By

&

One thing we like to do
together is:

One thing we like to do separately
is:

Three ways to be a good friend:

1.

2.

3.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (K-2)

Use these questions to engage students in thoughtful discussions about friendship.

- Would you rather have many friends or one really close friend? Why?
- How do you show friendship toward your friends?
- If you could be friends with a famous person (past or present), who would it be and why?
- What is the difference between being friends and being friendly?
- What Choose To Be Nice values have we learned that are important to a friendship? Explain.
- What makes a good friend?
- How do good friends make you feel?
- How are you a good friend?
- What's your favorite thing to do with a friend? Why?

SOCIAL STORIES (K-2)

Social Stories are fun and engaging short stories that show a Choose To Be Nice value in action. Read the story out loud and use the questions to prompt meaningful discussion.

Story #1: Perry could not wait for lunch! Not only does he love hanging out with his friends, but his mom also packed his favorite lunch, pizza! He had two pieces of delicious pepperoni pizza waiting for him in his lunchbox along with some chips and an apple. During lunch, Perry pulled his items out of his lunchbox. Right as he was about to take his first bite of pizza, he heard a gasp. Oh no! When Steven pulled his sandwich out of his lunchbox, it slid out of the bag and onto the floor. Without Steven asking, Perry offered him his second piece of pizza. Perry loved pizza, but he knew his friend needed something to eat besides just his snacks. Steven smiled and said, "Thank you."

- *How did Perry show friendship to Steven?*
- *How do you think it made Perry feel to show friendship to Steven? How did Steven feel?*
- *Does being a friend mean you have to give something you have away? What else could Perry have done to show friendship to Steven in this situation?*
- *What would you have done in this situation?*

Story #2: Tamara and Maria were best friends. They were in the same class every year, they played soccer together, and they spent almost every weekend together. They had similar interests and always got along well. This week, a new girl joined their class. Her name is Pria. At lunch, Maria asked Pria to sit with them. Tamara did not think much about it and enjoyed getting to know Pria. Maria also asked Pria to walk home with them afterschool. Everything was fine until they were walking home and Maria asked Pria if she would like to come watch their soccer game then go out to lunch after on Saturday. Tamara was in shock! That was their Saturday tradition. Why was she inviting Pria? Tamara gave Maria a confused look, but Maria did not notice. Pria said she had to ask her mom but thought it would be fun. After dropping Pria off, Tamara stopped Maria and said, “What are you doing? Why would you invite her on Saturday? We are already friends. We don’t need another friend.” Maria replied, “Tamara, you may not need another friend, but Pria does. She is new here. Besides, she is nice and fun. I think she would be a great addition to our group!” Tamara groaned and rolled her eyes. Maria then said, “If you don’t want to be friends with her, you don’t have to. However, I am going to be friends with her and hang out with her. It’s up to you whether you hang out with us or not. I really want you to, but I can’t make you be friends with someone if you don’t want to be.”

- *Why didn’t Tamara want to be friends with Pria?*
- *How did Maria show friendship to both Pria and Tamara?*
- *What do you think Tamara will decide to do? Why?*

EXTENSION IDEAS

Use these Extension Ideas to extend and reinforce the learning anytime throughout the month and year.

- Designate the end of the week as “Friendship Fridays”! Make it a time for students to connect with and work with someone new in the class or in the school. Collaborate with a teacher in another classroom or grade and “buddy up” to help students build friendships and interact with students they may not normally socialize with.
- Connect with a second grade class in a school in another state or country. Exchange letters between students, play games, or throw joint celebrations virtually using video chat software.
- Have students write in their CTBN Journal about a time that they were a good friend.

ADDITIONAL BOOKS LIST - FRIENDSHIP (K-2)

Use these additional books to reinforce the concept of friendship.

George And Martha: The Complete Stories Of Two Best Friends, By James Marshall

The Best Friends Book, By Todd Parr

Stick and Stone, By Beth Ferry

The Invisible Boy, By Trudy Ludwig

Strictly No Elephants, By Lisa Mantchev

Farfallina and Marcel, By Holly Keller

BONUS MATERIALS

Award Certificates: Choose To Be Nice Award Certificates are a great way to promote a positive school culture and reinforce the Choose To Be Nice value of the month. Use the Friendship Award Certificate to recognize those students for consistently trying to foster friendships among their peers.



Reward Tickets: Keep a stack of Friendship Tickets handy. When you observe a student being a good friend through actions, words, or interactions, award them a ticket. Empowering students to award these tickets to their peers is a great way to encourage them to recognize and value a good friend. Consider setting up a system where tickets can be exchanged for small rewards or privileges.



Coloring Page: Students can use coloring pages during quiet time. Display completed pages around the classroom to celebrate students' understanding and commitment to friendship.



Poster: Hang the poster in your classroom as a visual reminder of the importance of friendship. Use the poster to spark meaningful discussions about friendship.



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THE FRIENDSHIP MOUSE**
remembers that the friendlier he is
the more fun he has.

© 2024 Choose To Be Nice, LLC Friendship Activity Book - Second Grade CHOOSE TO BE NICE

**CHOOSE
TO BE NICE[®]**



FRIENDSHIP AWARD

This award is being presented to

*for being a friendly companion that
other people want to be around.*

Keep up the good work!!



FRIENDSHIP

CHOOSE
TO BE NICE

CONGRATULATIONS! YOU WERE
CAUGHT BEING A GOOD FRIEND

Name: _____

Date: _____



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