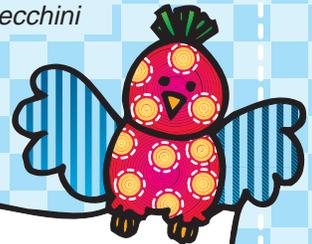
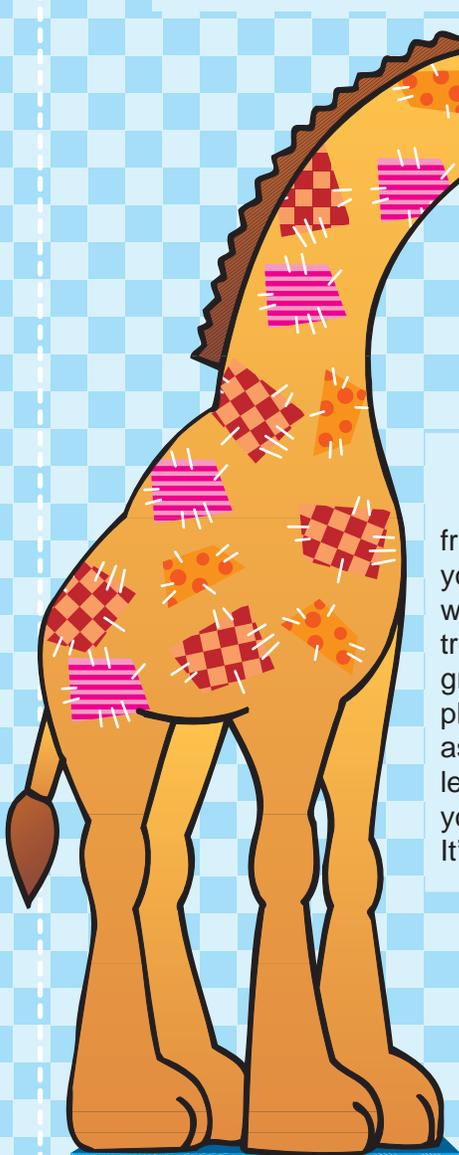


FABULOUS FRIENDSHIPS

Even though your little ones seem fairly focused on themselves, their interest in others may be just about to blossom. Help youngsters discover the fabulous fun of friends with these activities and book suggestions about friendship.

ideas contributed by Marie E. Cecchini



FRIENDS DO THINGS TOGETHER.

THE GET-ALONG GAME

Children, like adults, usually have special friends they enjoy being with the most. If you'd like to encourage youngsters to play with different and perhaps new friends, introduce "The Get-Along Game." To play, group youngsters in pairs. Ask each pair to play together until they hear a signal such as a bell or a whistle. After an appropriate length of time, give the signal and ask youngsters to find a new partner. So long! It's time to get along!

MAKING MUSIC

Use musical instruments to demonstrate how some activities that are fun alone are even more fun with friends. One at a time, provide each child with an instrument. Ask the child to play his instrument alone; then direct him to let his instrument rest on the floor. When each child has had an opportunity to play his instrument alone, ask the children to play their instruments at the same time. Discuss the difference in the sound of the instruments when played alone and when played together. If desired take your young musicians outside and have a marching band parade!

WE GO TOGETHER

Gather a collection of items that go together—such as a vase and artificial flowers, a baseball and a bat, and a toy dog and a bone. Discuss the items that go together; then place the items in a box. Have each child close his eyes and take one item from the box. When each child has an object, ask him to find his partner by finding the person with the corresponding object. After playing the game, place the box of objects in a center for children to match independently.

LITERATURE LINK

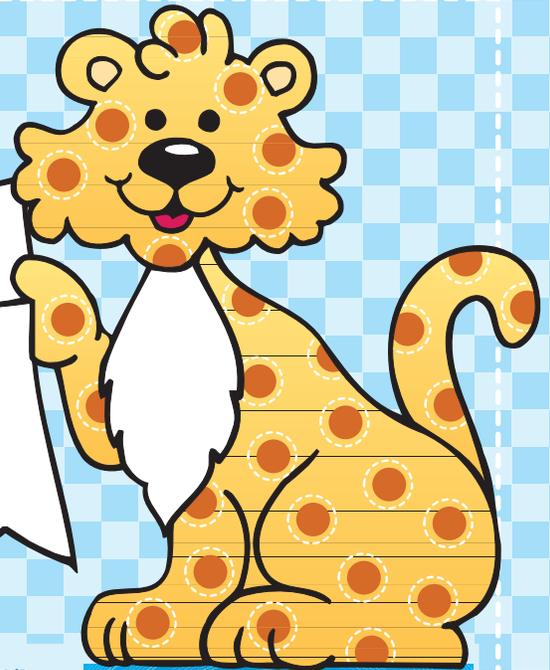
Rooster's Off to See the World

Written & Illustrated by
Eric Carle
Published by
Picture Book Studio

Step by Step

Written by Diane Wolkstein
Illustrated by Joseph A. Smith
Published by
Morrow Junior Books

FRIENDS ARE ALIKE AND DIFFERENT.



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ALIKE AND DIFFERENT

Ask the children to describe their friends. Point out that some friends are very much alike while others are very different. Ask the children if they have friends

who are older, younger, or perhaps are pets. Ask each child to draw a picture of an unusual friend with this unusual art technique. Provide the children with drawing chalk, colored paper, and a small bowl of milk. Direct each child to use the chalk to draw a picture of a friend who is very different from himself. To prevent smearing of the dried chalk, instruct the children to dip the tip of the chalk in the milk before drawing.

FRIENDSHIP GARDEN

By now your youngsters' social skills are probably blooming. This display is a beautiful way to show the diversity that exists in your classroom garden of friendship. Attach green, fringed paper to the bottom of a blue paper background. Provide children with various colors of construction paper and encourage them to cut out flowers, stems, and leaves. Have each child glue her flower parts together; then attach a photo of the child to the center of the flower. Mount the flowers onto the background along with the title "Our Friendship Garden."

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LITERATURE LINK

Do You Want to Be My Friend?

Written & Illustrated by Eric Carle

Published by

HarperCollins Children's Books

My Friends

Written & Illustrated by Taro Gomi

Published by

Chronicle Books