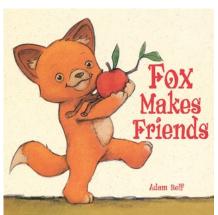


Transition Toolkit Idea #2 Making Friends

Starting kindergarten is fun and exciting for most children, but it can sometimes be scary too. Making friends is one thing that children may be worried about.

Help your children talk about the idea of making new friends by reading the book, *Fox Makes Friends* by Adam Relf. In this book, Fox learns what it means to make friends. After reading and discussing the book, try some of the activities below:

- 1. Tell children that Fox and his friends used kind words in the story to invite their "friends" to play. Show one of the pictures in the book and read the words: "Please can you come and play?" Tell children that using kind words is a great way to make new friends. Let children role play with each other and use kind words.
- 2. Put out a variety of everyday materials such as construction paper, beads, sticks, and glue. Let children create their own friend. Ask them what makes a good friend. Encourage them to tell someone at home how Fox made friends.
- 3. Ask children to think about what makes a good friend (e.g., sharing toys, doesn't yell). Make a list of these qualities.
- 4. Have children sit in a circle. Tell them to think about the person sitting next to them and what makes them a good friend. Toss a bean bag to each child and let them compliment the friend sitting next to them.



Through talk and play, you can set your students up for success by helping them learn about making friends before they ever get to kindergarten!

Working Together For Children

Happy Reading!