



Thankful for Friends

Introducing the Unit: Theme Extension Activities

Movement – A Word of Encouragement

1. Blow up a beach ball and have students stand in a circle.
2. Before tossing the ball, the student will say another person's name and then share a compliment or something they are thankful for about that friend.
3. Students will take turns tossing the ball to one another until all students/teachers have had a turn. Continue the game for as long as you'd like!



Gross Motor/Music – Movement Train

1. Have students make a train by lining up behind each other.
2. Give each student a shaker or musical instrument of some kind.
3. Play some music and have students walk around and play their musical instrument while staying in line.
4. Have an adult say, "Stop" and "Walk" to have students practice following safety cues.

Dramatic Play – Friendsgiving

- Set up a space in your classroom with a picnic basket, plastic/toy plates, food, cups, utensils, food items, cloth napkins, and a picnic blanket for a picnic with friends.
- Target skills such as turn-taking, asking/answering questions, sharing, inviting others to join, commenting, and laughing when appropriate.



Writing/Fine Motor Development – Kindness Chain

- Throughout the unit, create a "kindness chain" for acts of kindness you notice from the class.
- Encourage students to report acts of kindness, and allow them to add their experience to the chain.
- Students can choose to draw a picture of the act of kindness or describe how it made them feel.

Sensory Experience – Play-Doh Pals

1. Pair students up and have them plan a creation to make out of Play-Doh.
2. Give each student some Play-Doh, cookie cutters, rolling pins, and other Play-Doh tools.
3. After students have created their masterpieces, allow them to take turns sharing what they made together with the class.