

# LEARNING FOR LIFE

UPLIFTING STUDENTS · BUILDING CHARACTER · DEFINING LEADERSHIP

## THEME: GETTING ALONG WITH OTHERS

CARING, FAIRNESS

GRADES: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Core Curricula:** *Supplements language arts/social studies*

**Focus:** *Interpersonal skills and self confidence*

**Overview:** Students in second grade are now feeling secure enough to comfortably develop friendships, but often they don't know the "ingredients" for keeping friends. Many students feel hurt and sad when they are not able to maintain friendships. This lesson will focus on how to keep friends.

**Goals:** Students will develop skills in expressing feelings and maintaining friendships.

### LESSON PLAN:

Tell students: *Today we will talk about how to keep friends. Friends are people you like to be around. Ask: Can each of you think of a person whom you like to be around? We want our friends to like being around us as well. We're going to talk about some things that we can do to help us be likable, so that others will want to be around us.*

**Activity 1:** Tell students: *One thing we can do to be likable so that others want to be around us is make others feel special. Have students draw a big heart and print their name in the center using a pencil or crayon. Now that they've written their name in the center, have family members write one to four words inside the heart that finish the sentence "You are special because "After family have written the words, have them pass the hearts back to the student. Allow students time after the activity to read their special hearts.*

**Reflection:** Tell students: *We have learned that everyone is special and that everyone loves to be told that they are special. When you have friends, you should always tell your friends things that make them feel special. No one wants to be around someone who puts him or her down. Ask: After reading your special heart, do you feel special?*

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**Activity 2:** Tell students: *It's difficult to tell your friends when they are wrong. But if your friends are wrong and you don't tell them, it will seem as if you agree with their doing what's wrong. And when you do wrong against a friend, you should remember to say, "I'm sorry."* Ask students to name other situations that might require them to apologize or say "I'm sorry." List the situations on the board.

**Reflection:** Ask students: *Is it difficult for you to say, "I'm sorry"? When you do or say something to your friends that you really didn't mean, you should always say you are sorry. This is how you can keep your friends. No one is perfect. We all make mistakes. But when we make mistakes, we must apologize.*

*Think about a good friend of yours. Why do you like to be around him or her? What qualities does that person have that you like? Think about someone you'd prefer not to play with. Do you know what it is about him or her that you don't like? When you're trying to be a friend to someone, remember what it is you like and don't like in a friend so that you can be a better friend. What are some ways you can be a better friend to everyone?*