



I HAVE MANY, MANY FRIENDS (tune: "Yankee Doodle")

I have many, many friends
That play with me each day.
We run and jump and build with blocks
We have such fun...Hooray!
Running, jumping, climbing, too
Friends are so much fun.
Sharing toys and playing games
Until the day is done.

I Care!

Materials:

Doll with an arm or leg wrapped with a gauze bandage

- Caring is an important part of being a good friend. Young children develop empathy as they grow older and are better able to put themselves in another's shoes. However, even young children can show they care. This experience encourages them to do just that!
- Show children the doll. What is different about the doll? Help the children recognize that the doll is hurt. Give children a brief scenario about how the doll hurt his/her arm/leg. What could the children do to make the doll feel better? Encourage them to act out their ideas. Use this part of the experience to introduce the concept of caring for friends.
- To reinforce the concept of caring, use dramatic play! Have children assume different roles. For instance, one child might pretend to fall and hurt his/her leg. The other children can then show they care by attempting to make him/her feel better. Repeat, using different scenarios, for as long as the children show interest.
- **EXTENSION:** During daily activities and interactions, note when children are caring toward one another. This type of positive reinforcement is a great way of encouraging this type of behavior. This is a wonderful way to stop bullying before it even starts!




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Education

I love you



Let's Share

Materials:

Bucket or box of small blocks (4 per child)

- This experience helps children explore the concept of sharing and one-on-one correspondence at the same time!
- Put the box or bucket of blocks on the floor in front of you and look inside. As children show interest, invite them to look into the bucket or box as well. What do they see?
- Explain to the children that you want to share the blocks with them. Dump all of the blocks in front of one child. Is this a good example of sharing? The children will probably voice loudly that it is not!
- Pick up all the blocks and put them back in the box or bucket. Encourage children to tell YOU how to share the blocks. Then, have them distribute the blocks, one at a time to each child, until they are all gone. This is a great way for them to practice one-to-one correspondence.
- To further reinforce the concept of sharing, sing the following song and invite the children to sing along.

WE CAN SHARE SO MANY THINGS
(tune: "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star")

We can share so many things,
Toys and blocks and even swings.
When our friends asks for a turn,
We will give one to him or her.
We can share so many things,
Toys and blocks and even swings.