Topic

International Day of Friendship (celebrated on 30 July)

Aims

- To develop skills of speaking and reading
- To teach pupils about the importance of friendship
- To encourage pupils to use English creatively
- To celebrate the International Day of Friendship

Age group

Young Learners 7 - 11

Level

A1 +

Time

50 - 60 minutes

Materials

Friendship worksheet A (1 per learner), *Friendship worksheet* B (1 per group), *Large sheets of paper or card,* coloured pencils or crayons, plenty of imagination

Introduction

The United Nations have declared 30th July as the International Day of Friendship with the idea that "friendship between peoples, countries, cultures and individuals can inspire peace efforts and build bridges between communities."

In this lesson pupils celebrate friendship. They start the lesson by working together to understand what it means to be a good friend, through a discussion, and then by analysing a simple text. They finish by working together to make posters celebrating friendship.

Firstly, learners are introduced to the topic of friendship through a simple word game. Then they join in a teacher-led discussion about what makes a good friend. They do a puzzle activity to find 10 key words and use these to complete a gap-fill text about what makes a good friend. Finally, learners work in groups, using the ideas from the lesson to make classroom posters celebrating friendship.

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Procedure

Before the lesson	Download and make copies of the worksheets you need for the lesson.
4. Warmer (5 mins)	Introduce the topic of friendship on the board using some simple drawings. • On the board, draw yourself as a stick person. Ask '*Who's this?'* Elicit an answer (It's you!) • Then draw another stick person next to you. Ask '*Who's this?'* Elicit an answer (It's your friend.) • Explain that this lesson is all about friendship. If appropriate explain that July 30th is The International Day of Friendship.
5. Discussion (5 – 10 mins)	**For higher levels and native English speakers:** Conduct a classroom discussion about what makes a good friend. • Write the following question on the board: *What makes a good friend?* • Ask learners to put up their hands to suggest ideas. Accept any reasonable ideas and make notes on the board, e.g. *a good friend is kind to you.* Encourage all learners to participate by sharing their ideas. **For lower level learners** • Ask learners to write a list of all the words or phrases they associate with friendship. If necessary, let them write in their own language. Give them a time-limit of 2 minutes. When they have finished write the words on the board and go through any translations or meanings for weaker students.
3. (10 mins)	Give each learner a copy of *Friendship worksheet A*. • Put learners into pairs and ask them to complete *Activity 1* (unjumble the letters and write the words). If necessary, remind learners what nouns, verbs and adjectives are. *Answer key: 1. angry 2. favourite 3. finds 4. homework 5. jokes 6. kind 7. lends 8. lies 9. problems 10. shares* • If necessary, go through the words and explain the meanings. • Ask your learners to complete Activity 2 (use the words to complete the sentences) and Activity 3 (tick the sentences that they agree with). Tip: For extra support with lower levels, give them the first letter of each of the 10 words.

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4. Making a poster (15 - 20 mins)	Put learners into small groups to make a poster celebrating Friendship. • Give each group 1 copy of *Friendship worksheet B*. Read through all of the instructions with the whole class, checking that they understand what they have to do at each stage. • Groups work together, following the steps to make their *Friendship posters*.
5. Class display (10 – 15 mins)	Make a classroom display of the posters for parents to see when they visit the school.
6. Optional activity	Learners follow the link below to find a fun quiz worksheet on the topic of friends. http://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/worksheets/friends

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