

Friendship



What we will explore:

- What are the qualities of a good friend?
- What issues can affect friendships?
- How can you deal with friendship problems?
- How can you be a good friend?



<https://youtu.be/ah7jiRs3THI>



What is a good friend?



Complete the worksheet, ticking the box that best fits your opinion.

Which issues can affect friendships?

How might these issues change as you grow up?

Think about:

- the problems you encountered at primary school
- the problems you might encounter now
- the problems you may encounter when you get to Year 11

How to deal with friendship problems...

Discuss each scenario in your group.

Share any experiences of the problem that
you (or your friends) might have had.

Decide on the best solution to the problem.

Scenario 1

You have two best friends at school and like to hang around together as a threesome: however, it's becoming more obvious that "three's a crowd". In class, they sit together and never leave you a seat, they go to the same clubs at lunchtime, they get the same bus to school, and you suspect that they're doing things at the weekends without inviting you. You're feeling really left out, as if they don't like you anymore.

What should you do?

Scenario 2

Your closest friends from primary school all went to another secondary school. Although you don't see them every day, you still meet up at weekends and count each other as "best friends". Recently, however, you've noticed them making nasty comments about you being at a grammar school. They also seem to tell stories deliberately to make you jealous that you're not part of their school friendship group anymore. You still want to be friendly with them but have started feeling uncomfortable about how they're treating you.

What should you do?

How good a friend are you?

Complete the worksheet, ticking honestly the box that best fits you.



Role play...

MUBAR: Hey, Greg, guess what?

GREG: *(looking at Mubar)* What?

MUBAR: I got an A on my essay and...

CRYSTAL: *(interrupts to talk to Greg)* Greg, did you still have my Lady Lala CD?

GREG: *(to Crystal)* Uh, no.

MUBAR: Anyway, I was the only one in the class who got an A so the teacher said...

CRYSTAL: Greg, you must have my CD, I can't find it anywhere. I know I loaned it to you.

GREG: *(to Crystal)* I gave it back to you weeks ago, don't you remember?

MUBAR: The teacher said that she's going to enter my essay in the state contest.

(Greg is still arguing with Crystal about the CD)

MUBAR: Hey, Greg, I'm trying to tell you something. It's really exciting.

GREG: *(confused; looking from one to the other)* I forgot what you were saying, Mubar.
Tell me again?

MUBAR: *(sighing)* Never mind. *(walks away)*

Role play...

Listen Up!

2. **JEN:** *(very excited)* Cara, look! I got my ears pierced this weekend!

CARA: *(fumbling in her backpack for something):* You're so lucky! I wish my parents would let me get mine pierced.

JEN: Check out my new earrings. See? They're real gold!

CARA: *(still looking through her backpack)* That's really nice.

You better not lose them. *(to herself)* Come on, where did I put that permission slip?

JEN: *(hurt, annoyed)* Thanks a lot! You don't even care, do you? You're jealous!

(She storms away with Cara looking after her, very confused.)

CARA: Huh? What just happened?

Role play...

JAIDA: Sunday's my birthday and my mom said I could invite some friends out for pizza. Do you want to come?

TINO: Sure, you bet! Where's the party?

JAIDA: It's at Pete's Pizza Palace at 1 o'clock.

TINO: *(takes scrap of paper out of pocket and starts to write)* Let's see... Sunday... 1 o'clock...Where is Pete's Pizza Palace, anyway?

JAIDA: It's in the Maxi-Million Mall, right next to Skateboarding Square.

TINO: Maxi-Million Mall. Thanks a lot, Jaida. I'll see you on Sunday.
(Both kids walk away smiling.)



A friend doesn't say things like:

"Your friend Kai is such a nerd, I can't stand him."

Instead, a friend might say:

"I'm not crazy about Kai but he must be okay if he's your friend."

"Thanks for the birthday present, but I really think it's ugly. Do you still have the receipt?"

"It's true that I forgot to call you back—so what's the big deal? Don't be so crabby about everything.

"You said you would meet me here at 4 o'clock, and now it's 4:15! You're so inconsiderate! Can't you ever be on time?"

"Don't tell me you liked that book! Only a geek would think that was worth reading. It was the dumbest thing I ever read.

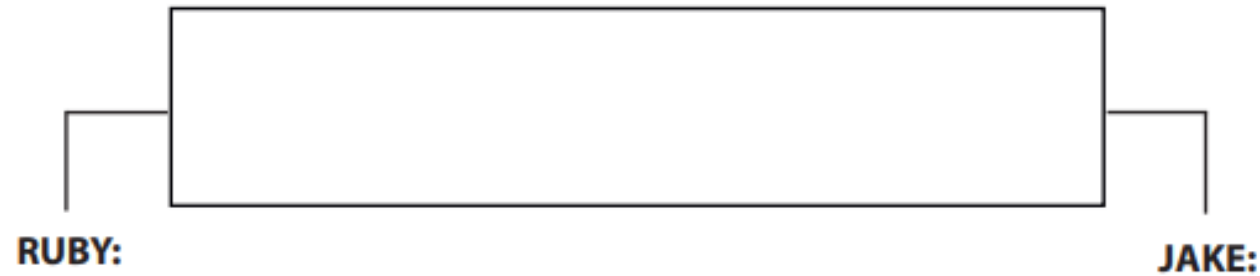
"Kyle, you really messed up your part of the group project. The whole thing stinks because of you! What were you thinking?"

The friends in each situation below are having problems coming to a solution that will please them both. Think about what each person wants and decide how they can compromise so that no one is unhappy.



"I want to go rollerblading."

"I want to play video games."



"I'm having my birthday party at the bowling alley next Saturday."

"No way! I'm having my party at the bowling alley next Saturday!"



FERNANDA:

"I want to decorate the table with lilacs and tulips. That will be so pretty."

MELODY:

"Flowers wilt too fast. Let's use seashells and pussy willows instead."

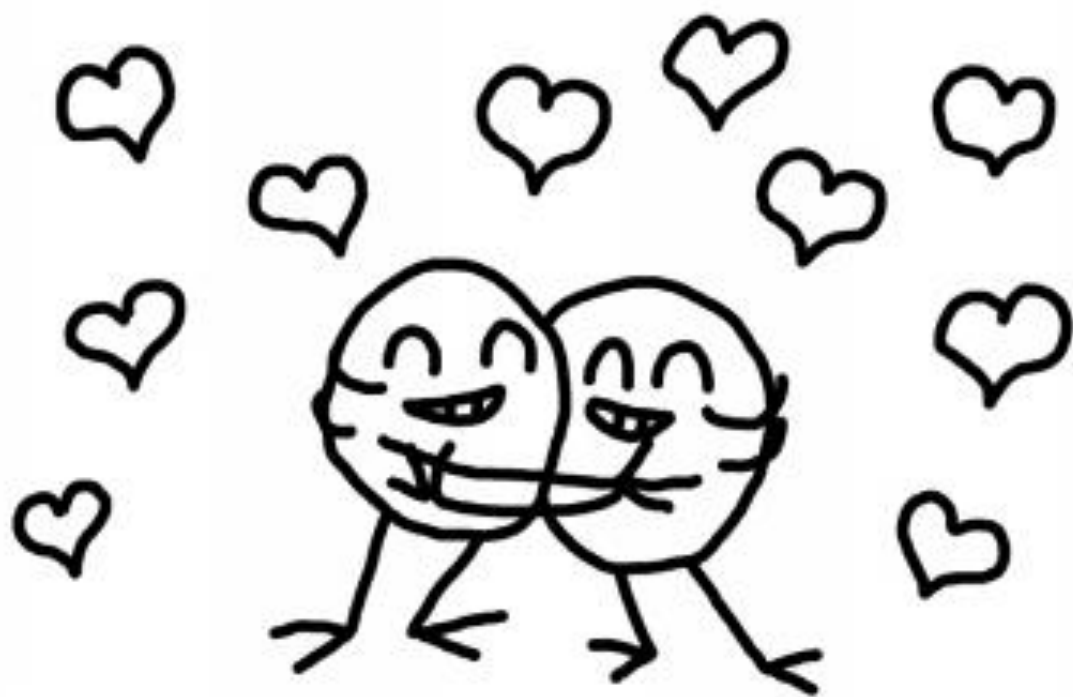
JONAH:

"I decided to run for class president, so don't bother to run against me."

DINA:

"But I've wanted to run for class president all year long!"

Let your friends know they are appreciated!





Signposting for help.

Young Minds - www.youngminds.org.uk

Childline - www.childline.org.uk

Samaritans - www.samaritans.org

Children Society -
<https://www.childrensociety.org.uk/>