

Friends for Keeps series

TEACHERS', LIBRARIANS' & PLAY-LEADERS' NOTES
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Yummy Ice-Cream, Jump Over the Puddle, Let's Play House

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Classroom, Library and Playgroup ideas:

All the titles in the *Friends for Keeps* series deal with the small conflicts that arise between friends in day-to-day life and the way these conflicts are resolved—through humour, through deflection, through generosity...

- Talk about some conflicts the children have experienced, and the ways in which those conflicts were resolved.

Some suggestions might be:

Saying sorry

Changing the subject/activity

Deflecting the conflict through humour

- Ask the children to draw or paint their friend.

Encourage the children to talk about:

How their friend is similar to themselves

How their friend is different to themselves (not only dwelling on physical differences).

What they like about their friend

Yummy Ice-Cream

CRAFT ACTIVITIES

- **Paper ice-creams**

Cone of thin cardboard

Coloured paper the children can scrunch up (therapeutic)

Recycled ice-cream tubs

You could set up an ice-cream stall, perhaps using recycled ice-cream tubs full of different coloured balls, bean bags or scrunched-up paper balls and a large spoon or scoop. Depending on the age of the children, play coins or tokens could be used to buy the ice-creams. The children could have fun making signs and labelling the flavours, with words or pictures.

- **Ice-creams collage**

Cut out tall triangular shapes from yellow paper for cone shapes (plain, textured or patterned paper).

Glue the 'cones' to a piece of coloured card or paper, possibly in a row.

Supply pages from magazines, wrapping paper, wallpaper or patterned paper for the children to cut roughly circular 'scoops' of ice cream to glue onto their cones.

Hundreds and thousands "sprinkles" could be added, using coloured glitter, sequins, hole-punch circles or small beads.

Alternatively, the children could create their own collage sources, preparing the paper beforehand (refer to collage picture books by Eric Carle).

Some suggestions:

Cones – criss-cross wax crayon lines (or a wax crayon rubbing from a textured surface), with water-based paint washed over the top.

Ice-cream – colourful paintings with dots or fruit shapes stamped, printed (potato prints), drawn or painted on top.

Jump Over the Puddle

GROSS MOTOR ACTIVITIES

- **Paper puddles**

Cut out small and medium-sized puddle shapes from blue paper or newspaper (the children could paint it blue). Put the puddle shapes on the floor and ask the children to take turns jumping over the puddle. Children with limited mobility could jump a toy or puppet over a smaller paper puddle.

The rhyme "Jack Be Nimble" could be altered to suit, possibly substituting the children's names:

Jack be nimble, Jack be quick.

Jack jump over the puddle, quick!

- **Hula hoop puddles**

Place some hula hoops on the floor. Play some music while the children walk around the hula hoops. When the music stops, the children have to jump into the hoop (puddle) and shout, "Splash!"

- **Making rain**

In the water play area, give a cup full of water to the children. Hold a slotted spoon or colander in front of them, and ask each child to pour the water into it to make 'rain'.

- **The sound of rain**

Parents/caregivers and children gather in a circle and use their hands to create rain-related sounds. Wind is created by rubbing ones hands in a circular motion on the floor. Small rain drops are made with the fingertips striking the floor softly, then a little harder. Finally comes the heavy rain, made by all the fingers on each hand hitting the floor quickly together.

CRAFT ACTIVITIES

- **Raindrops mobile**

Refer to the endpaper collages in “Yummy Ice-Cream”.

Cut out raindrop shapes and have the children paint them. Hang the painted raindrops from the ceiling. The children can play rainy day games underneath them (see below).

- **Cotton wool clouds**

Cut out grey cloud shapes from construction paper. The children can glue on cotton balls. The painted raindrops (above) could be strung beneath the cloud.

- **Paint with clouds**

The children can dip cotton balls into white paint and press them onto blue paper to make cloud prints.

- **Shaving cream clouds**

Add a few drops of blue paint to shaving cream. The children can use a brush or their fingers to paint clouds onto paper or onto a washable surface.

- **Easy rainbows**

Tape three or four coloured crayons in a straight line. Show the children how to draw a rainbow with one stroke. This is a good opportunity to talk about the colours of the rainbow.

- **Rain painting**

Have the children paint the entire surface of a sheet of heavy-duty paper with a water-based paint. The children can then spray water from a spray bottle onto the paper, or take the paper out into the rain for a nature painting.

SONGS AND RHYMES

THIS IS THE WAY WE...

This is the way that Panda jumps, Panda jumps, Panda jumps,
This is the way that Panda jumps,
Jumping over the puddle.

Etc. (*The children mime each character's action*)

JACK BE NIMBLE

Jack be nimble, Jack be quick. (*substituting the child's name*)
Jack jump over the puddle, quick!

IT'S RAINING, IT'S POURING

It's raining, it's pouring,
The old man is snoring.
He went to bed, and bumped his head,
And couldn't get up in the morning.

I HEAR THUNDER

I hear thunder, I hear thunder.
Hark don't you?
Hark don't you?
Pitter, patter raindrops,
Pitter, patter raindrops.
I'm wet through.
So are you!

RAIN, RAIN, GO AWAY

Rain, rain, go away.
Come again another day.

Let's Play House

ACTIVITY IDEAS

- **Playing house**

Help the children to throw some sheets or blankets over sturdy chairs, tables or clothes stands and provide cushions and a few household items to encourage play and improvisation. If there is more than one house, children may like to deliver mail, invitations and visit one another.

- **A performance**

The story can be acted out as a play or as a puppet show, using hand puppets or soft toys. The text is dialogue-based and lends itself well to performance, with spoken parts or a narrator.

- **Improvisation – guess the animal**

Sit the children in a circle around a pile of props. One child at a time will go to the centre of the circle, pick up a prop and use the prop to pretend to be an animal. The other children will guess the animal the child is mimicking.

Reluctant children could be asked which prop they would choose to pick up to be a cow, a kangaroo, a rabbit, etc.

Some suggestions for props:

Rubber piping (trunk, tail), plastic fruit, small plastic plates (ears), a washing basket (shell), tongs (claws), a fluffy or furry rug or fabric, cones (snouts), pipe cleaners or straws (whiskers), patterned fabrics (animal markings), sequined or shiny/silky fabrics (scales), bubble mix (bubbles), draught excluder or stuffed tights (tail), cotton wool (rabbit tail), wooden or plastic spoons (antennae), a sheet of dot stickers.

SONGS AND RHYMES

HERE'S A HOUSE

Here's a house with a wall, with a wall, with a wall,
Here's a house with a floor, with a floor, with a floor,
Here's a house with a roof, with a roof, with a roof.

[Spoken]

Here's a house falling down! CRASH!
There's no house any more, any more,
There's no house any more.

(The children use their hands to suggest upright walls, spreading, horizontal floor and pointed roof. They slap their hands on their laps for the "CRASH", and shrug their shoulder, hold their hands out to the side and shake their heads for the final two lines.)

MAY I COME OVER TO YOUR PLACE?

May I come over to your place?
May I come over to you?
You may come over to my place,
but you have to do what we do.

(One child chooses and action, and the other children must copy. The song is repeated until all who want to have had a turn.)

BUILD IT UP

Build it up, *(children put one fist on top of the other, in turn, "One potato, two potato" style)*
Built it up,
Build it high.
Build it up, up, up into the sky.

Built it up
Build it up,
Build it higher.
Build it up, up, up, up into the sky.

Pile on bricks,
Pile on two, three and four.
Pile them up and up, and then you pile some more.
Pile on five, pile on six, seven, eight...
Watch them wobble, like a jelly on a plate!

Anna Walker’s illustrative technique:

Coloured inks and collage.

You can visit Anna Walker’s website at www.annawalker.com.au

Friends for Keeps Author and Illustrator Notes:

For Author and Illustrator Notes, visit the [teachers'](#) page at Emma Quay’s website:

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