

LESSON OVERVIEW

Big Idea: Our friends rub off on us

Key Question: Why should we choose our friends wisely?

Memory Verse: Don't be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character." **1 Corinthians 15:33 (NIV)**

Overview: We're continuing in our series called, "How Stuff Works". It's important to know how stuff works so we don't make mistakes that can hurt us or those we care about. Last week, we learned about how our feelings should work. God created us to have feelings, the good ones like happy and excited and the hard ones like anger and fear. We learned that our feelings help us in life- they help us to be good friends, to avoid danger, and help us to make good decisions. But, we also learned that we shouldn't act on our feelings how ever we want. We need to use three important steps to make sure we respond in the right way. The steps are: 1. Stop, don't react 2. Think about what you're feeling and why. 3. Act appropriately. Today, we're going to learn about how friendship works. Having friends is important. God designed us to want to have them. But, we need to be careful and choose the right kind of friends. The reason- our friends rub off on us and impact the person we become. You know why? Because, we want to fit in and be accepted by our friends. Usually that means we do what they do. For example, if we hang around kids that use bad words, in order to fit in, we will use bad words, too. Or, if we hang around friends that are kind to others, we'll want to be kind, too. That's how friendship works. We become more like the people we hang around. So, let's choose our friends wisely!

CLASSROOM AGENDA

- 5 min **PLAY:** Begin working on Activity Page #1.
- 5 min **WARM UP:** Make a list of things a good friend would do. Make a list of things a bad friend would do.
- 5 min **PREVIEW:** Write out the Big Idea and Memory Verse and Key Question on a whiteboard. Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1. (if applicable)
- 20 min **LARGE GROUP:** Gather for songs and videos with other kids. Then return to small group to finish this guide.
- 5 min **RECAP:** Read the **Lesson Overview** from the Teacher's Guide to the class and then **answer** the KEY QUESTION.
- 5 min **EXPLORE:** Read [Ephesians 4:31-32](#). What do we need to get rid of? How should we act instead?
- 10 min **PLAY:** Do the group activity from Activity Page #2.
- 5 min **CLOSE:**
 - Share something you learned about friendship
 - Share prayer requests and pray as a class.

TEACHER TIPS

Don't forget that you set the tone for your kids. Smile. Have fun. Pursue God together.

Allow each kid to share. The point: We need to choose our friends wisely. Good friends are good for us. Bad friends are bad for us.

Answer: Because our friends help to shape the people we become. Don't be fooled, your friends will rub off on you. Good friends will encourage you to be kind and loyal. Bad friends will encourage you to do naughty things that don't honor God. Save yourself the trouble and choose to hang around good friends.

Bonus Questions: Why is it important to choose friends wisely? Why do we tend to act like our friends?

4-5th: What have you seen kids do that want to fit in with a certain group at school? Have you ever done something you know you shouldn't have because you wanted to fit in? Explain.

We need to rid ourselves of yucky things like anger, jealousy, using bad words or talking bad about others. These things don't honor God and they definitely don't make for a good friend. Instead, we should do things that honor God. Things like, being kind, caring and forgiving. The key is at the end of the passage. We should treat others as God has treated us. He has forgiven us and loves us even when we mess up.

Allow each kid to share.

ACTIVITY PAGE #2

Classroom Activities 2nd-5th

Option #1

Friends Rub Off On Us Craft

- Give each kid a Friend Template (pg 5)
- Give each kid a pencil
- Have kids color each letter as dark as they can
- Then have them rub their hands over the colored letters and see how easily the lead rubs off onto their hands
- Remind the kids how important it is to choose their friends wisely because they will rub off on them
- Give each kid a hand wipe to clean their hands
- Then, have kids come up with 2 lists:
 - How friends can rub off on them in bad ways
 - How friends can rub off on them in good ways

Supplies needed

- Friend Template (pg 5), pre cut, one per kid
- pencils
- pencil sharpeners
- hand wipes

Bonus Activity:

Play **Find the Book in the Bible**

Have class get into pairs. Give each pair a Bible. Have them race to find the books below. First to find has to say if it's in the OT or NT.

Books: Psalms, Luke, 2 John

Option #2

Friendship Knot Game

- Have kids huddle up in a group
- Then have each kid reach and grab onto the hands of two different kids. **Kids will be tangled up**
- Then, challenge the class to untangle their human knot without letting go of their hands. It will take teamwork to get it done!
- Remind kids that in order to work well together, they will have to be good friends to one another

Supplies needed

- none

Bonus Activity:

Play **Bible Hangman**

Words or Phrases: friends rub off, kindness, loyalty

1 Discover Truth

Watch this week's lesson video as a family (see link above) and fill in the blanks.

- Our friends _____ on us.
Good habits:
 - being _____
 - _____ everyone
 - _____ your homeworkBad habits:
 - _____ other kids
 - using _____ language
 - _____ parents
- We should _____ our friends carefully.

2 Talk about it

Answer these questions together as a family.

- Make a list of things a good friend would do. Make a list of things a bad friend would do?.
- How have your friends rubbed off on you?
- Why is it important to include everyone?
- Why is bullying wrong?
- How good have you been at picking your friends?
- Read [Ephesians 4:31-32](#). What do we need to get rid of? How should we act instead?

3 Live it out

Memorize this week's Bible verse:

Do not be misled: "bad company corrupts good character"

1 Corinthians 15:33 (NIV)

Bonus: Read these additional passages as a family this week

- Read [John 15:13](#). According to this verse, who is the best example of a true friend?
- Read [Luke 6:31](#). How should we treat others?
- Read [Proverbs 13:20](#). According to this verse, why should we choose our friends wisely?

Parent Signature _____

Learn the 3 basic truths of the Christian faith in the [Foundations for Kids](#) series.



ACTIVITY #1

Love One another

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. John 15:12 (NIV)

Based on John 15:9-17 (NIV)



G Q R J N I L D R Z G F U R G
 C O M M A N D D I M Y T E Z I
 G F S Y J F W J O K H N Y O J
 Q W F L F R U I T W S C P M I
 C H M E R B W Q J F N R U P O
 T L D R I K O B U S I N E S S
 Q X S X E J U O E R N L A Y R
 O A P R N E N B A I F L I S R
 M J L B D I O E D K R V T E T
 L A F O S A B Y M Z N N T V F
 M D S A V V Y K N R A A U E E
 Z H T T T E P W L V E L S F F
 Y M N P E H H A R R P O I V Q
 F F G P B R E E G Z H L H R I
 R E M A I N S R V C E C D S A

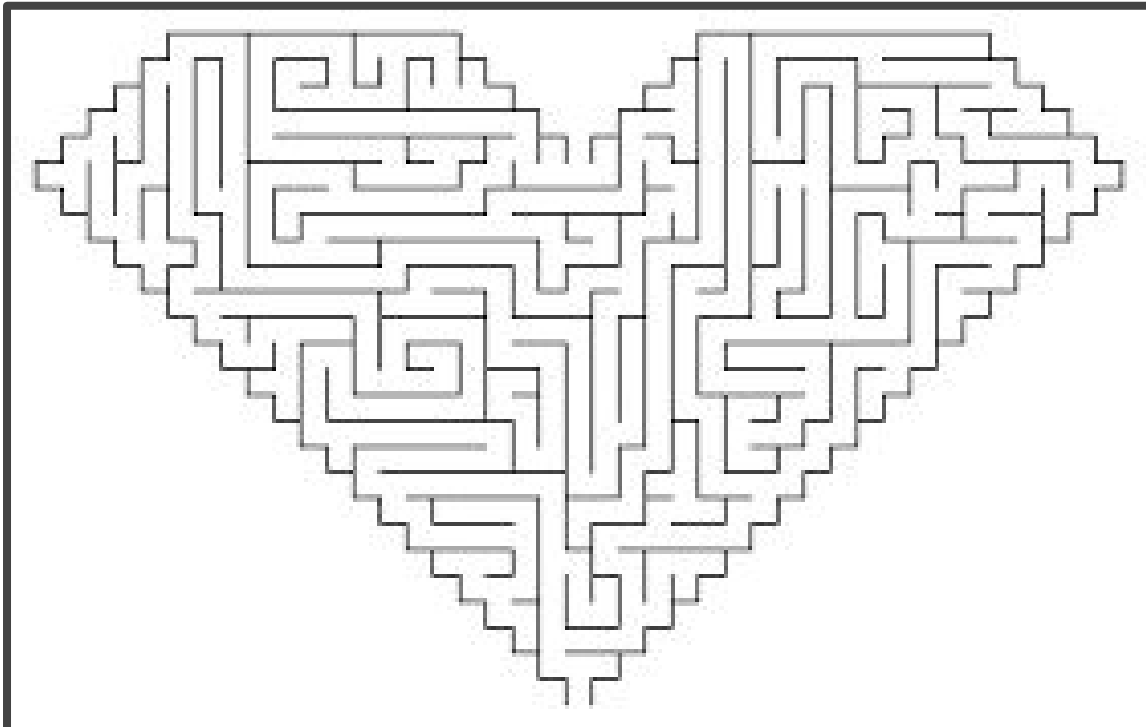
FRIENDS	OBEDIENT	LOVE	FRUIT
DOWN	BUSINESS	BEAR	MASTER
LAY	FATHER	LIFE	REMAIN
SERVANTS	GREATER	COMMAND	CHOOSE

BIG IDEA →

KEY QUESTION →

MEMORY VERSE →

PUZZLE #2



FRIEND

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