

TOPIC

Friendship

LEVEL

Sixth Grade

THEME

Building Connection

LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the lesson, the students are expected to:

- Identify the qualities they value in a friend and what they offer as a friend.
- Practice empathy and problem-solving in real-world friendship situations.

MATERIALS

- Friendship Ad Worksheet (one per student)
- Writing utensils
- Scenario Slides

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- What qualities make someone a good friend?
- How can I be a good friend and show empathy in tough situations?
- How do my friendships help create a culture of belonging at school?

CHECK-IN / WELCOME (5 MINUTES)

Say: "Today we're talking about friendship and how it connects to Aavidum's message of creating a school where everyone feels accepted and valued. One way we do this is by thinking about the friends we have, the friends we want, and the kind of friend we are."

Emotions Check-In:

Ask: "Before we begin, how are you feeling today? Hold up a number of fingers from 1 (low energy) to 5 (high energy)."

- Allow brief sharing to build community.

GUIDED DISCUSSION / TOPIC INTRODUCTION (10 MINUTES)

Say: "Imagine you were writing a 'Wanted Ad' but instead of for a job or item, it's for a friend. What qualities would you list? What would you offer in return as a friend?"

Model Example (on board):

- I am looking for... "Someone who listens without judgment."
- I offer as a friend... "I will always check in with you when you're having a hard day."

Distribute Worksheets. Students complete two columns:

- I am looking for... (friend qualities they value)
- I offer as a friend... (what they bring to a friendship)
 - Instruct them to include at least three qualities in each column.

Pair & Share:

- Say: "Turn to a partner and share your lists. Look for common qualities or surprises. What do you have in common? What's unique?"
 - Invite 2-3 students to share in front of the class.

Say: "Aavidum is about making sure no one feels alone. When we name these friendship qualities, we see how we can care for each other and build a place where everyone feels like they belong."

ACTIVITY: FRIENDSHIP DILEMMAS (20 MINUTES)

Say: "Friendships aren't always easy. Sometimes we face tough situations that test how good of a friend we are. Let's practice handling these in an Aavidum way with care, respect, and empathy."

Read aloud one scenario at a time:

- The Un-friended Dilemma:
 - You see that your friend has been "un-friended" from a group chat you're in, and you hear some people are now talking about them. What do you do? Do you stay in the group chat? Do you talk to your friend? Do you confront the people talking about them?
- The Divided Loyalty:
 - Your two best friends have gotten into a big argument and are now telling you that you have to choose a side. How do you respond to them? What would you do to try and help the situation without taking a side?
- The Secret's Out:
 - You told a friend a secret, and now you hear that a few other people know. You're not sure if it was your friend or someone else. How do you approach the situation to find out the truth without immediately accusing your friend?
- The Changing Friendship:
 - You and a friend have been close for a long time, but lately, they've started hanging out with a new group that's a bit of a bad influence. They want you to join them, but you're not comfortable with their choices. How do you communicate your feelings to your friend without ruining your friendship?

After reading each scenario, prompt a discussion among students with the following questions:

- "How would you handle this situation?"
- "What would you say or do?"
 - Allow students to role-play responses in pairs and then share with the class.

Debrief:

Ask: "Which Aavidum values, such as caring, acceptance, respect, empathy, did you use in your response?"

WRAP-UP (5 MINUTES)

Ask:

- "What's one thing you learned today about being a good friend?"
- "How can our friendships help build a school where no one feels alone?"

Friendship Pledge:

Go around the room and have students say one behavior they'll practice this week, such as "I will check in on a friend," or "I will include someone at lunch."