

Making **FRIENDS**

A **SOAR** Lesson

Stimulating **O**pportunities **A**cademic **R**igor

A cross curricular lesson for:
Language Arts, Math, and Life Skills





Included in this lesson:

- Reading Activity – Fictional Story with Test Your Thinking Skills
- Math Activity
- Writing Activity: Definition Poetry
- BINGO Game

What is **SOAR**? A **SOAR** unit engages students by captivating their attention with stimulating activities that include multiple academic disciplines. Let's make learning fun and watch student progress **SOAR**!

Lesson: Making Friends

 **Target 1:** Each student will be able to define the value of friendship and 3 attributes (characteristics) of a friend.

 **Target 2:** Each student will answer questions to demonstrate understanding of the fictional story, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers. (Essential Skill)

Instructional Strategies

1. Explain Student Learning Targets.
2. Introduce the topic with some information and discussion questions. Suggestions for discussion:
 - a. Why is being a friend and making friends an important life skill?
 - b. Discuss some attributes of a friend. Begin with the definition of attributes. List some synonyms for attributes (characteristics, traits, qualities). List attributes of their character NOT physical traits.
 - c. Create a list.
3. **Stimulating Opportunity:** Play Friend BINGO.
4. Read the short story, *An Unexpected Friend*.

Check for Understanding

5. **Essential Skill:** Each student will complete Test Your Thinking Skills to check their understanding of the text, *An Unexpected Friend*. After assessing each student's work, read the story together and discuss each question and the correct answer. Use this as an opportunity to teach students how to better understand what a question is asking and how to find the answer in the text.
6. Friend Math - Partner Multiplication practice - Work is always more fun when you do it with a friend!

Materials Needed:

- Short story, *An Unexpected Friend*
- Test Your Thinking Skills worksheet
- Instruction sheet and Friend Vocabulary sheet for BINGO
- BINGO Card
- Friend Math worksheet

An Unexpected Friend

Minna jumped up from a deep sleep. "What was that snort? Who's here?" she whispered. "Oh it was only me," she thought as she realized her own snoring woke her up. "It's time to get up anyway because today I'm want to make a new friend.

Minna jumped out of bed, ran to her food bowl and scarfed down her breakfast. She gulped down some water and ran to the door barking. Minna wanted to get outside and find her new friend. Just like clockwork her human opened the door to let her out.

"She thinks I have to go to the bathroom," Minna chuckled as she ran to the tree and lifted her leg.

"Hey, be careful where you relieve yourself, I live in this tree!" Minna looked up and saw a furry brown squirrel.

"Sorry, I didn't mean any harm. I'll be on my way because I have something very important to do today"

"Hold on a minute," said the squirrel, "What's so important anyway?"

"Today is National Make a Friend Day and I want to make a new canine friend. I have my friends Blue, Clancy, and Maggie who are part of the Canine Club, but make a friend means to make a new friend. I'm just not sure where to find a new friend I haven't already met," Minna explained.

"Well I could help you look," said the squirrel. "I can run fast and scamper up trees. I will have a great view of the neighborhood."

"I would appreciate that," said Minna. "Hey we should know each others names if we are going to hang out together to find a new friend. My name is Minna," barked the brown furry canine.

"And my name is Sammy," squeaked the fuzzy squirrel. Minna ran under the fence and Sammy followed.

"Who do you want me to look for?" asked Sammy.

"Another dog that looks like they would be friendly," answered Minna as she peered down the street.

"How can I tell if the dog is friendly just by looking at it?" questioned Sammy. Minna stopped in her tracks and thought for a moment.

"I don't think you can judge another dog just by looking at it. I will have to talk to them and find out if they are friendly. If they want to talk with me and get to know me then I will know."

Minna searched down her street. She looked on both sides of the road but she didn't see any dogs. Sammy scampered up the trees and looked all over but he didn't see anything either. They ran to the next street and then the next but there wasn't another dog to be found.

"Wow, I didn't know this would be so difficult," said Minna sadly. "I guess I better head home." So the two slowly walked back to Minna's yard where they started. They were both quiet as they thought about their morning.

Minna was disappointed she didn't see any other canines and she felt bad that her new friend Sammy had wasted his morning. Sammy felt bad he wasn't able to help his new friend.

WAIT A MINUTE!" Minna cried. "I did make a new friend today. It's you, Sammy. You're my new friend. I was looking for a dog but a friend doesn't have to be somebody just like us. Sammy, you are friendly, and you wanted to help me, and you cared about my feelings and spent time with me. I didn't know I would find a friend in my own backyard. Thanks for being my friend."

"You're welcome Minna. I'm glad we're friends," replied Sammy with a big smile.



Name: _____



An Unexpected Friend

Test Your Thinking Skills

1. Which of the following words is an antonym for chuckled ?
 - A. cried
 - B. laughed
 - C. yelled
 - D. giggled

2. Which answer below best states the theme (big idea) of the story?
 - A. friends are easy to find
 - B. friends are found in unexpected places
 - C. friends are people who help us
 - D. friends are hard to find

3. Read the sentence below from the passage.

Just like clockwork her human opened the door to let her out.

What does the underlined part of the sentence mean?

- A. her human looked at the clock
 - B. just when the clock stopped working
 - C. her human always opens the door at this time
 - D. just when the clock started working
-
4. Which of the following words is a synonym for canine ?
 - A. animal
 - B. human
 - C. dog
 - D. mamma

5. *Just like clockwork* is an idiom. An idiom is a phrase that means something very different from what the words actually say.

Circle the phrases below that are idioms.

- A. raining like cats and dogs
- B. she is brilliant
- C. that is super easy
- D. I gave her a piece of my mind
- E. that is beautiful
- F. don't bug me

6. Read the sentence and directions that follow.

Sometimes we make friends when we least expect it.

Circle the **two** details below that **best** support the statement above.

- A. I will have to talk to them and find out if they are friendly.
- B. I was looking for a dog but a friend doesn't have to be somebody just like us.
- C. Sammy I didn't know I would find a friend in my own backyard.
- D. She looked on both sides of the road but she didn't see any dogs.

7. Which one of the events below is a cause and effect relationship?

- A. Minna jumped up
- B. Sammy felt bad he wasn't able to help his new friend
- C. The two slowly walked back to Minna's yard
- D. Minna searched down her street

Name: _____

An Unexpected Friend

Test Your Thinking Skills **Answer Key**

1. Which of the following words is an **antonym** for chuckled ?

- A. **cried**
- B. laughed
- C. yelled
- D. giggled

Antonym means opposite and Chuckled means to laugh. The opposite of laugh is cried.

2. Which answer below best states the **theme** (big idea) of the story?

- A. friends are easy to find **not the big idea**
- B. **friends are found in unexpected places** the title helped give a clue
- C. friends are people who help us **true, but not the big idea**
- D. friends are hard to find **Minna did find a friend, so this is not the theme**

Finding the theme involves making inferences.

3. Read the sentence below from the passage.

Just like clockwork her human opened the door to let her out.

What does the underlined part of the sentence mean?

- A. her human looked at the clock
- B. just when the clock stopped working
- C. **her human always opens the door at this time**
- D. just when the clock started working

Just like clockwork is an idiom, so it doesn't mean exactly what it says.

4. Which of the following words is a synonym for canine ?

- A. animal
- B. human
- C. **dog**
- D. mamma

Synonym means the same- A dog is a canine.

5. *Just like clockwork* is an idiom. An idiom is a phrase that means something very different from what the words actually say.

Circle the phrases below that are idioms.

- A. raining like cats and dogs means it's raining really hard
- B. she is brilliant
- C. that is super easy
- D. I gave her a piece of my mind means I let her know what I was thinking
- E. that is beautiful
- F. don't bug me means don't bother me

6. Read the sentence and directions that follow.

Sometimes we make friends when we least expect it.

Circle the **two** details below that **best** support the statement above.

- A. I will have to talk to them and find out if they are friendly.
- B. I was looking for a dog but a friend doesn't have to be somebody just like us.
- C. Sammy I didn't know I would find a friend in my own backyard.
- D. She looked on both sides of the road but she didn't see any dogs.







7. Which one of the events below is a cause and effect relationship?

- A. Minna jumped up
 - B. Sammy felt bad he wasn't able to help his new friend
 - C. The two slowly walked back to Minna's yard
 - D. Minna searched down her street
- Cause: Sammy thought he didn't help Minna
- Effect: Sammy felt bad

Name: _____

Canine Friends Math

Multiply and use the products to identify the characters in the Minna and the Canine Club series. Then write the name of the dog below their picture.

					
1,771	2,032	3,573	1,580	7,335	2,340

1) 274
 X 8

2) 815
 X 9

3) 581
 X 5

4) 395
 X 4

Shorty

Maggie

5) 603
 X 6

6) 253
 X 7

7) 468
 X 5

8) 896
 X 3

Minna

Hugo

9) 637
 X 8

10) 397
 X 9

11) 426
 X 2

12) 508
 X 4







Clancy

Blue

Name: _____

Canine Friends Math Answer Key

Multiply and use the products to identify the characters in the Minna and the Canine Club series. Then write the name of the dog below their picture.

					
Minna	Blue	Clancy	Maggie	Shorty	Hugo
1,771	2,032	3,573	1,580	7,335	2,340

1)
$$\begin{array}{r} 274 \\ \times 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

2,192

2)
$$\begin{array}{r} 815 \\ \times 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

7,335

Shorty

3)
$$\begin{array}{r} 581 \\ \times 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

2,905

4)
$$\begin{array}{r} 395 \\ \times 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

1,580

Maggie

5)
$$\begin{array}{r} 603 \\ \times 6 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

3,618

6)
$$\begin{array}{r} 253 \\ \times 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

1,771

Minna

7)
$$\begin{array}{r} 468 \\ \times 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

2,340

Hugo

8)
$$\begin{array}{r} 896 \\ \times 3 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

2,688

9)
$$\begin{array}{r} 637 \\ \times 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

5,096

Clancy

10)
$$\begin{array}{r} 397 \\ \times 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

3,573

11)
$$\begin{array}{r} 426 \\ \times 2 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

852

12)
$$\begin{array}{r} 508 \\ \times 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

2,032

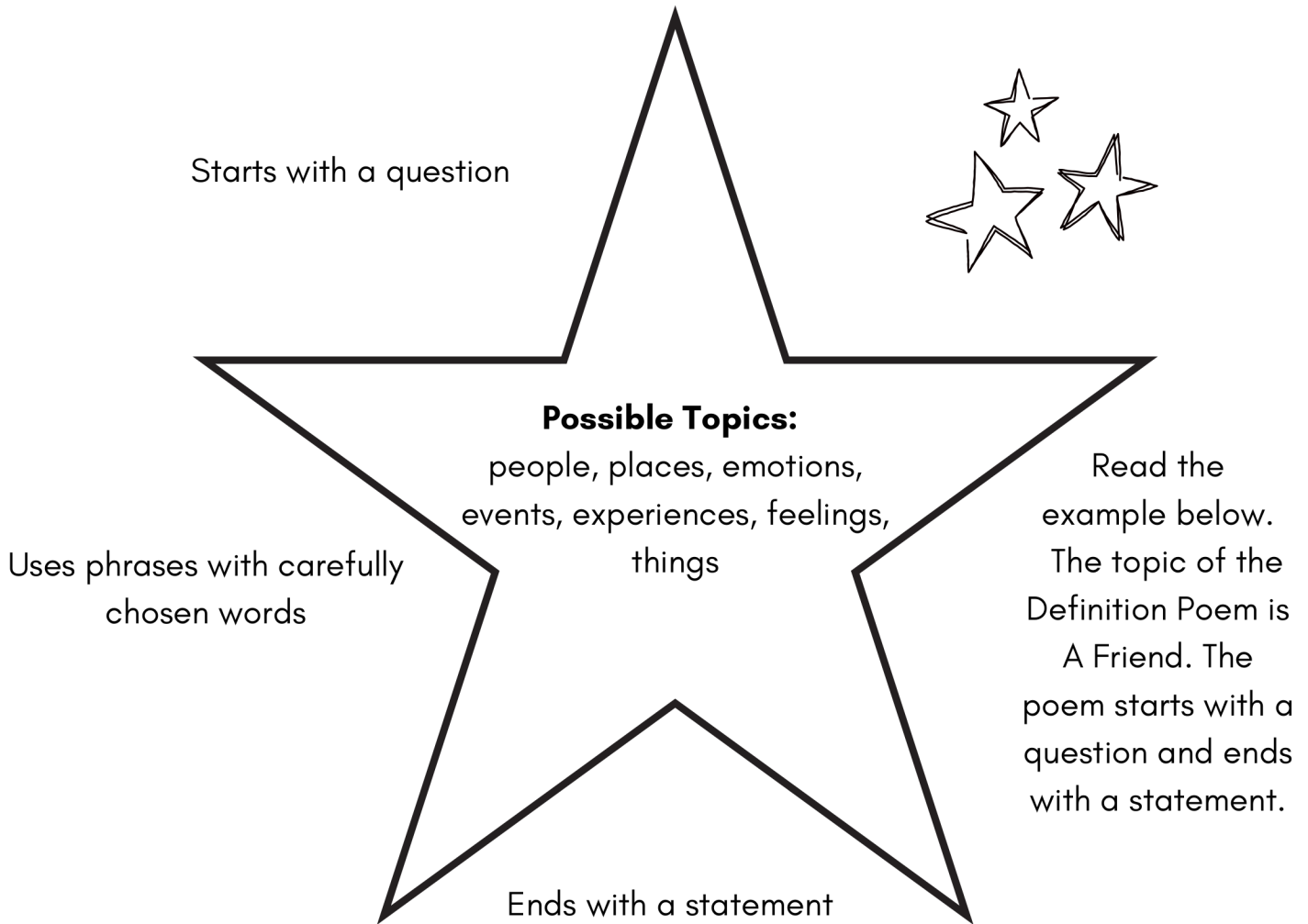
Blue

Write a Definition Poem

Informational Handout

Read about Definition Poems and then write one. Write about a topic that interests you.

What is a Definition Poem?



What is a Friend?

A companion that's easy to talk to

Someone who understands your silence

A person you can always depend on

A listener who cares about what you have to say

An ally who is happy for your success

Someone who does not compete with you but teams with you

A buddy you enjoy spending time with

Someone who gets your humor

Someone who makes you a better person

That's, (Write your friend's Name) !

Name: _____

Write a Definition Poem



Now it's time to write your own Definition Poem. Follow the list of tips below:

1. Think of a subject that you want to describe. You could write about a Friend.
2. The next step is to think of at least ten colorful phrases. Make sure your word choices create a powerful description of your subject.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

3. Examine your phrases and select six to eight of the best phrases to write your Definition Poem. Use the form below for your rough draft.

What's _____?

That's _____!

4. Rewrite the poem or type it on a blank piece of paper and include an illustration!

Friend BINGO

Instructions

Preparation:

1. Print a BINGO card and a copy of the vocabulary list for each student
2. Students should write vocabulary words in the empty squares of their card
3. Cut out each piece of the call out cards and place them in a container
4. Get tiles for the players (not included)

Objective:

The first player to get Bingo wins by covering the squares on their card going across, down or diagonally.

Two ways to play:

Option 1: The caller says the letter and the word. Example: G "Minna"

Option 2: To play a faster version of the game the caller may call out only the word, "Minna"

Rules:

1. Give each player a playing card
2. Give each player tiles (not included) for covering the words or names
3. Each player should cover the "Free Space" picture of Minna with a tile
4. The caller picks one call card from the container and reads it to the players
5. If a player's card is a match with the caller then they place a tile on that square
6. After each call out card is read the caller should place it in a separate pile for later verification
7. Continue the game until a player gets Bingo. The player should say aloud, "Bingo!"
8. The winning player verifies by reading back the words on their squares to the caller
9. Continue the game by leaving tiles on the cards or clear the cards and start over

Friend BINGO

Vocabulary and Calling List

Attributes (Characteristics) of a Friend:



trustworthy

loyal

cheerful

honest

kind

forgiving

generous

empathetic

humorous

courageous

patient

happy

resilient

accepting

protective

listener

helpful

positive

respectful

understanding

fun

compassionate

caring

giving

nice

interesting

concerned

sympathetic

talkative

supportive


thankful

brave

observant



Friend BINGO

B	I	N	G	O
				

Thank You

Thank you so much for downloading our resource! We hope that you and your students get excited about learning and **SOAR!**

-Shelli Abel (Whimsical Writers)

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