



RIGHT TRACKS

ALWAYS BEEN FAITHFUL

FAITH-BASED ASSEMBLY



Aims

- To consider the qualities of a good friend
- To learn that Christians believe Jesus is the most faithful friend



Resources

- PowerPoint presentation
- 'Always Been Faithful' video
- Jesus label
- Always Been Faithful stickers (optional) - two versions available



Bible verse

'So know that the Lord your God is God. He is the faithful God. He will keep his agreement of love for a thousand lifetimes.'

(Deuteronomy 7:9 ICB)



You will need:

- To find and print out images of Disney/Pixar characters or other fictional examples of friendship:
 - Cogsworth and Lumière
 - Peter Pan and Tinkerbell
 - Lilo and Stitch
 - Timon, Pumbaa (and Simba)
 - Rapunzel and Pascal
- Blu-Tak or tape to stick the images on the Friend-O-Meter (optional)
- If using the Always Been Faithful stickers, insert the image/s into a sheet of circular sticker labels, then print

You may prefer to create your own Friend-O-Meter to display.



INTRODUCTION

Slide 1

Introduce yourself and welcome pupils to assembly.



Slides 2 & 3 - Friend-O-Meter

Introduce the Friend-O-Meter! The top of the scale, ten, is for awesome, first-rate friends. We don't really rate our friends - it's not a kind thing to do - but we do recognise when someone is a good friend to us - or not.





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Here are some film character friendships that you might know. But how good a friend were they? Give a rating out of ten - you can show this by holding up your fingers.

For each friendship take a rough guess at the children's votes and stick each image on to the scale or point to where they voted. Do not give any a score of ten.

Peter Pan and Tinkerbell: These two have been friends for a long time. But when Peter Pan wanted to be friends with Wendy, Tinkerbell became jealous and caused a lot of trouble. Yes, Tinkerbell helped rescue Peter Pan, but it was her that planned to put him in danger in the first place. So where should we put Tinkerbell on the Friend-O-Meter?

And what about Peter Pan? He started to ignore his best friend as soon as he met Wendy. He wanted to punish Tinkerbell for her pranks against Wendy by banishing Tinkerbell for ever. Yet Peter Pan quickly forgets that he fell out with his friend, and when Tinkerbell risked her life to save him, he rescues her right back, by digging her out of the rubble. So where should we put Peter Pan on the Friend-O-Meter?

Cogsworth and Lumière: These two characters seem very different from each other and argue a lot. But they work together to run the castle and keep it safe - and they look out for each other when things get rough. So where should we put Cogsworth and Lumière on the Friend-O-Meter?

Timon and Pumbaa: Timon and Pumbaa are all about having fun and no responsibilities. Yet they rescued Simba when he was a starving cub, even though he was a stranger and potentially dangerous. But when Simba had to go home to help his family, it looked like Simba was doing it on his own. However, Timon and Pumbaa stepped up again and helped their friend, even though it put themselves in danger. So where should we put Timon and Pumbaa on the Friend-O-Meter?

Lilo and Stitch: By the end of the film Lilo and Stitch are the best of friends, they are a family. But it took a long time and a lot of destruction before Stitch started to treat Lilo well. So where should we put Stitch on the Friend-O-Meter?

Rapunzel and Pascal: When Rapunzel was stuck in a tower, her friend Pascal was always by her side, providing friendship and entertainment.





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Then, when Rapunzel leaves the tower, Pascal goes with her and supports her without question. So where should we put Pascal on the Friend-O-Meter?

MAIN TALK



Slide 4 - What makes a good friend?

So what makes a good friend? *Take some responses.*

A good friend is there for you. They want good things for you. They won't put you in danger or get you into trouble. You can trust them. They know you and like you; you don't have to change for them.

Another term for a good friend is faithful friend.

Here are some ways to be a faithful friend:

- They celebrate with you when you are happy
- They comfort you when you are sad
- You can trust them with your favourite toy or game
- They are honest with you
- You can trust them with your special news
- You don't feel lonely with them
- They will keep you safe

I wonder if you are a faithful friend to someone?



Slide 5 - Christian perspective

For Christians, their faithful friend is Jesus. In the Bible, the holy book for Christians, Christians learn that Jesus will always be there for them. Jesus loves and understands them. They put their trust in Jesus, they know that Jesus will help guide them and keep them safe.

'So know that the Lord your God is God. He is the faithful God. He will keep his agreement of love for a thousand lifetimes.'

(Deuteronomy 7:9 ICB)

For Christians, Jesus - God - will always be at the top spot of the Friend-O-Meter.

Point to the top of the Friend-O-Meter or stick the Jesus label there.





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Slide 6 - Salvation Army perspective

The Salvation Army, as a Christian church and charity, follows the teachings of Jesus. Jesus sought out people who were alone, ignored and badly treated by society. He spent time with them, he looked after them, he made sure that they knew they were important to him - that they were valued. Jesus was a good friend to them.

The Salvation Army is inspired by this and seeks out people who may feel left out by society and people who are struggling. This may be because they are homeless, unemployed, been in prison, are living in poverty, or lonely or isolated at home or face difficulties in their family. The Salvation Army works to support them, to make things fair. The Salvation Army tries to be a good friend to them.

REFLECTION



Slide 7

Who is always there for you? Who is your faithful friend?

Pause for a few moments for reflection.



SONG

Slide 8

The Salvation Army has created a song to help celebrate and remind us that Jesus is our faithful friend.

Play the song 'Always Been Faithful' and encourage pupils to sing along.



Slide 9 - Goodbye

Thank the pupils and staff for letting you be a part of their assembly.

You may wish to give pupils a sticker (or the sheets of stickers to each teacher) as they leave.

Play the song 'Always Been Faithful' as pupils leave.

