

Learning Objective: To develop the ability to accept praise

Skill: Making friends

Ask the group for a definition of "compliment."

Tell them:

Being complimented encourages you to "keep up the good work." It usually makes you feel good about yourself, but sometimes it can be hard to accept a compliment. You might be embarrassed by what the person has said, or you might even feel that it isn't true. Perhaps, you don't like it when an adult compliments you in front of other children. You might think the other children will resent you for getting praise and feel that you are stuck-up.

It is important to learn how to accept a compliment, just as it is important to learn how to give one. Complimenting is an important part of making and keeping friends.

The simplest way to accept a compliment is just to say "Thank you." You can also give a compliment back. For example, if someone says, "I really like your new sneakers," you could say, "Thanks. I like yours too."

Divide the children into pairs. Ask one person in each pair to go first and compliment his partner. The partner should say "Thank you" and give a compliment in return. The pair should repeat these steps three times.

Twice more, regroup the pairs and repeat the above directions. Make sure that each child has at least one chance to be the one who receives compliments (rather than initiates them).