

Learning Objective: To help children find ways to seek others who have similar interests; to increase group inclusion

Skill: Making friends

Ask the children to think of ways to find groups they might like to join. Suggest that they focus on their individual interests. Brainstorm ideas and write them on the blackboard or a large sheet of paper.

Tell them:

Throughout their lives, people participate in many different kinds of social groups: scout troops, faith-based groups, sports teams, clubs, and more. A class is also a kind of group. Your classmates are part of your group experience every day at school. Some children are also in specialized classes, such as art, computer, music, and science classes that meet after school or on weekends. A child's life—and an adult's, too—is filled with different kinds of groups.

Distribute Activity Sheet 22. Children can write the answers or raise their hands and answer the questions aloud. Use their responses as the basis for a discussion about the different aspects of joining a group.

Name _____ Date _____

Matt has just moved to the neighborhood and is a new student at school. He is sitting at a lunch table where a group of kids are planning some activities for the weekend. He wants to be included but doesn't know what to do.



What could Matt do to become part of the group?

Do you think Matt should speak first or wait until someone in the group speaks to him?

What could Matt say to start a conversation?

Should the group invite Matt to join them? Why or why not?

Tell about a time when you had a hard time connecting with people in a group. How did you feel? What did you do?
