



Values Curriculum:

Friendship/Chaverut

OVERVIEW	This session explores the Jewish value of <i>Chaverut</i> /Friendship. Using puppets and games, students learn about the concept of friendship and what makes a good friend.
OBJECTIVE	To explore what makes friendship work and to identify the qualities of a good friend.
VALUE(S)	<i>Chaverut</i> (Friendship)
STORY	"Yaffa and Fatima: Shalom and Salaam" Adapted by Fawzia Gilani-Williams
MATERIALS	Friendship bracelet & puppet supplies
AT HOME CHALLENGE	Students will take friendship bracelets home to share with a friend and are encouraged to make a special time with a friend and practice being a good friend.

Materials List

Activity One

- Socks
- Markers
- Yarn
- Stapler
- Googly eyes (with sticky backs)
- Pipe cleaners

Activity Two

- No materials required
- Open space for games to be played

Gathering Activity

- Embroidery floss for bracelets (in a variety of colors)
- Tape
- Scissors

Opening/Closing Circle

- Book: "Yaffa and Fatima: Shalom and Salaam"
Adapted by Fawzia Gilani-Williams
- Big pad of paper and markers
- At Home Challenge Sheet

Gathering Activity: Friendship Bracelets (15 Minutes)

Children will make friendship bracelets that they can give to their friends at home, school, camp, synagogue, sports.

1. Gather children around a table with materials laid out.
2. Have each child choose 6 colors of embroidery floss.
3. Cut one piece of embroidery floss the length of each child's arm. Cut their other colors to this same length.
4. Tie the strings into a knot at one end and tape the end to the table (or to a piece of cardboard).
5. Spread the strings out.
6. Take the first two strands on the left. The first on the left will pass over the 2nd one and then behind it, through the hole and up towards the knot until it's taut.
7. Keep knotting the first string across the other five strings.
8. Repeat the knotting with what is now the first string on the left. And so on.
9. If this is too difficult, kids can also make a regular braid.
10. Make a knot at the bottom. Cut off extra floss.

For clear instructions with visuals visit:

<https://www.wikihow.com/Make-a-Friendship-Bracelet>

Opening Circle (10 Minutes)

Gather everyone into a circle, bringing their Shabbat mats with them, and begin with a melody, a niggun or a greeting song such as Hineh Ma Tov.

Tell about today's theme:

- Have the children hold up their friendship bracelets to show each other.
- Ask the children to name one person who is their friend (in the room or out of the room).
- Today we are learning about Friendship
- What do we already know about Friendship?

Introduce today's Hebrew words — *Chaver/Chavera*:

- *Chaver* is the word for friend who is a boy. *Chavera* is the word for a friend who is a girl.
- Everyone put one hand out, palm up, and say "Cha"
- Take the other hand and shake your own hand, say "Vair" or "Vay-rah" whichever you prefer.
- Either way the word means friend. Everyone can be a friend.

Story (20 Minutes)

Introduce the Story — "Yaffa and Fatima: Shalom and Salaam" Adapted by Fawzia Gilani-Williams

- Have you ever made a friend who was different from you? What was it like? Did you have some things in common? How did you spend time together? Was it easy, challenging, or complicated to have a friend who was different from you? ?
- The story we're going to read is about a friendship between Yaffa and Fatima.. In this story they show how they care for each other. Let's find out more about their friendship.

Read the Story. Ask some good Questions.

• Check for Understanding

- ◇ What are some differences between Yaffa and Fatima? What do Yaffa and Fatima have in common?
- ◇ How do we know that Yaffa and Fatima are friends?

• Get Curious

- ◇ What are kids wondering about the story?

- ◇ Encourage kids to wonder about WHY something happened in the story, WHAT might happen next, or HOW someone did something.
- ◇ Record these questions on the big pad of paper.
- ◇ These questions don't have to have answers – though kids are welcome to try and answer each other's questions.
- ◇ Have kids respond to each other's questions with "good question!" and a thumbs up.

- **Give one more Question to Ponder**

- ◇ I'm wondering: How do friends make our lives better?

10 Minute Break

Activity One: Sock Puppet Show (25 Minutes)

Children will make friendship puppets and a puppet show. You can spend more time on creating the puppets or on the performance, depending on the interests of your group.

Introduce the Activity:

Today we are going to make our own puppets and put on a puppet show. The show is about friendship, just like our story. Our show will have multiple acts (one act for each pair of kids), with each act showing a special quality about friendship.

1. Brainstorm together the qualities that are important in a friend/*chaver*. Record kids' ideas on big paper. (examples: kind, honest, dependable, fun, able to listen)
2. Choose one of those qualities and with puppet samples act it out for the kids in just a few minutes.
3. Help kids get into pairs. Have each pair pick a quality of friendship they want to act out. While they are making their puppets, they can think about how to show that quality.
4. Give everyone a sock and show them the materials they can use to make a puppet.
5. Help kids craft their puppets.
6. As kids finish their puppets, they can start to work with their partner on their act in the show.
7. Once all the puppets and stories are ready, gather together for the show.
8. If kids get stuck, work together to have the audience suggest ways to tell about their friendship quality.



Activity Two: Friendship Games (15 Minutes)

“That’s Me” Game

In this activity, children will have the opportunity to get to know more about each other’s similarities and interests. By learning about the things they have in common, the children will establish stronger bonds.

1. Gather the group and have them sit on the floor or rug.
2. One child starts by calling out something about him/her/themselves. This can be anything from “I have an older sibling” to “I like chocolate” to “My favorite color is yellow.”
3. If the statement is true for anybody else, they stand up and say, “That’s me!”
4. Have another child call out something about him/her/themselves.
5. Continue until everyone who wants a turn to call out has had one.

“I’m Your Friend” Game

In this activity, children pay attention to who is in their learning group by trying to guess who their mystery friend is.

1. Have the children sit together on the floor or a rug.
2. Ask one child to volunteer to go first.
3. That child sits in a chair with their back to the group, with eyes closed or hands covering eyes.
4. Have one of the kids go up to the back of the chair where the child is sitting. In a disguised or funny voice they say: “ Do you know me? I’m your friend.” Then the mystery child returns to their place on the floor.
5. The child in the chair turns and tries to guess who it was. They have three guesses before the mystery child tells them who they are.
6. Each child who wants to take a turn, gets to sit in the guessing chair.

Closing Circle (10 Minutes)

Gather everyone into a circle with their puppets.

Have each puppet say one thing that makes a good friend and then kiss, hug, or high five the puppet next to them until each puppet in the circle has gone.

Review the Hebrew Words of the Day:

- Have the children practice the Hebrew words with their bodies: Cha (one hand out, palm up) Vair or Vayra (shake that hand with your other hand).
- Have the children say what *Chaver/Chavera* means (friends!)

Pass out the At Home Challenge Sheet

Sing a goodbye song like *Shalom Chaverim* or *Oseh Shalom*.

At Home Challenge: Friendship/*Chaverut*

Today, we learned about friendship. We talked about what makes a good friend and we practiced being friends with each other. We also made friendship bracelets and puppets.

Here are the next steps to take at home to practice being a friend:

1. Plan some special time with a friend. Maybe you can make time to get together with a new friend. Maybe you can share your puppet with them.
2. Decide on a friend you want to share your friendship bracelet with and give it to them. Let them know you appreciate their friendship.