

discovery time

Buddies

Parents and caregivers, extend Discovery Time into your home. Share these fingerplays and activities with young children. **The letter for this theme is F.**

Friend of Mine

(Tune: "Mary: Had a Little Lamb")

Will you be a friend of mine,
Friend of mine, friend of mine?
Will you be a friend of mine,
And jump around with me?

Additional action words:

... clap around with me?

... fly around with me?

... dance around with me?

1, 2, 3 Good Friends

1, 2, 3 good friends,
4, 5, 6 good friends,
7, 8, 9 good friends,
10 good friends are we!

Uno, dos, tres amigos,
Cuatro, cinco, seis amigos,
Siete, ocho, nueve amigos
Diez amigos son!

(Hold up each finger as you say the number. Include the Spanish verse for a bilingual fingerplay!)

Different Friends

(Tune: "Row, Row, Row Your Boat")

Love, love, love your friends,
Different as they seem.
Playing, laughing, joking, helping,
Friends are like a dream!

The More We Get Together

(Tune: "Did You Ever See a Lassie?")

The more we get together, together, together,
The more we get together, the happier we'll be.
For your friends are my friends,
And my friends are your friends,
The more we get together, the happier we'll be.

Two Little Friends

Two little friends are better than one.
And three are better than two.
And four are much better still.
Just think! What four little friends can do!

(Count up on your fingers as you say the numbers two to four.)



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Help your child get ready to read with these simple activities.

- **Talking:** Talk about subjects your child is interested in and show them the letters in those vocabulary words—like motorcycle or unicorn. Because she is interested, she is more likely to remember those letters and be engaged.
- **Singing:** Sing songs that incorporate actions such as “Friend of Mine” on the back of this page. Actions like jumping, clapping, and dancing help develop gross motor skills like balance, rhythm, and coordination.
- **Reading:** Try running your finger along the title or repeated phrase in the book you are reading with your child. This helps him understand that you are reading the text of the book and that text has meaning.
- **Writing:** By doing fingerplays together, such as “1, 2, 3, Good Friends” on the back of this page, your child is developing crucial finger muscles and motions that will help her as she is learning to write.
- **Playing:** Playing a sorting game with your child is a great way to develop mathematical and conceptual thinking. You can sort by color, purpose, length, weight, etc.

family literacy tip

Adding Richer Language

For babies and toddlers, language *is* literacy. Providing “extra talk,” like chitchat, commentary, expressions of affection, wordplay, and storytelling, is fuel for learning language. Children in families that provide this extra talk are at an advantage, not just because they are hearing a larger number of words, but because they are also hearing richer language that is more responsive and encouraging. Richer talk includes more information, more back-and-forth, more interesting and unusual words, and a lot more encouragement for questioning, exploring, putting ideas into words, and figuring things out. To engage in extra talk with your child, try adding two enriching or positive sentences to what you are saying. Instead of saying “we are going to the store,” add extra talk about why you are going to the store, what you are going to buy, etc.

Ghoting, Saroj Nadkarni and Pamela Martin-Diaz. *Storytimes for Everyone! Developing Young Children’s Language and Literacy*. ALA Editions, 2013.



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