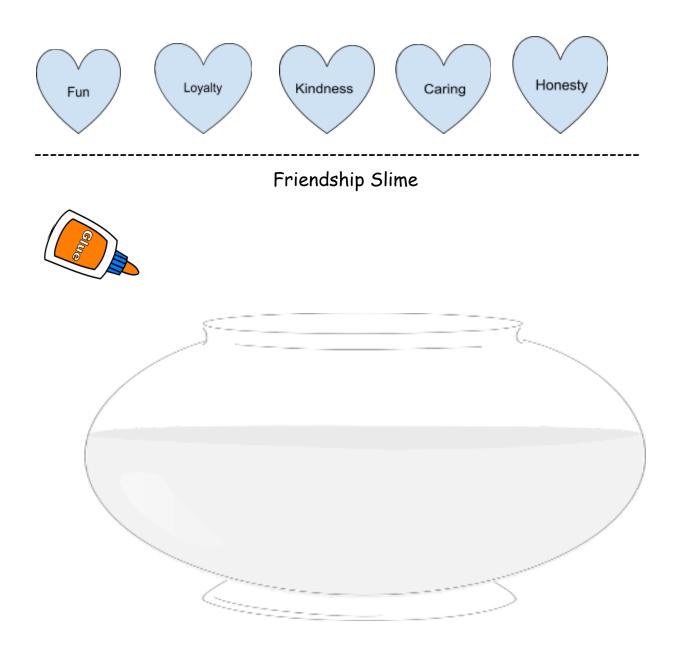


This activity is intended to aid in children's understanding of friendship. Friendships are vital to school-aged children's development. Friendships not only provide children with playmates, it helps children develop emotionally and morally. Interacting with friends helps children develop social skills such as sharing, communication, and problem solving. They also learn empathy and self-management skills. Research has shown that having friends positively impacts children's school performance. On the contrary, children who lack friends may suffer from emotional and mental difficulties later in life.

There are two versions of the activity. The first version is meant for use with early elementary school aged children. The second version is for use with late elementary school aged children. After completing the activity, it is encouraged that students share their work with the class. They can discuss their reasons for choosing their color for the slime, and why the identified characteristics are important to a friendship. In addition, you can create a classroom survey/debate about which of the identified characteristics is the most important to a friendship and why. Start by listing all the identified friendship characteristics on the board/poster/chart paper, and give each student a post it note. Have the students place their post it note under the characteristic they feel is most important. Tally the classroom votes and discuss. Friendship Slime



Let's make Friendship Slime! Color the slime a color that represents your unique personality. Then add the activator by cutting out the characteristics that make a good friend and adding them to the slime.

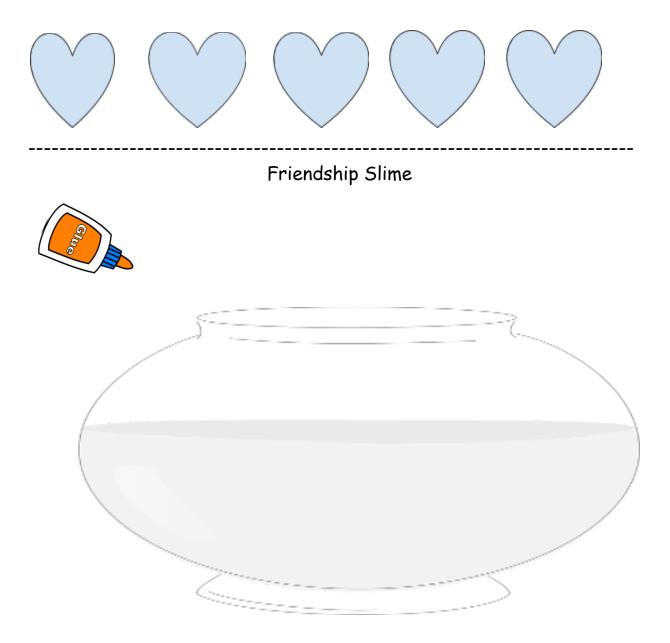


Late Elementary





Let's make Friendship Slime! First, think of 5 characteristics that make a good friend, and write each characteristic on a heart below. Next, color the slime a color that represents your unique personality. Then cut out each heart and add to the slime.



Late Elementary