

# The “Friend-Says” Game

**OBJECTIVE:** Students will learn how to make and keep friends, and practice effective communication skills (PS.A2.6; PS.A2.8).<sup>1</sup>

**MATERIALS:** None.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Brainstorm what actions and traits are characteristic of a “good friend.” Make a list on the board. Tell students they are going to practice being a good friend today by playing the “Friend-Says” game, which will demonstrate some of the things that good friends say to one another.
2. Play the “Friend-Says” game (a version of “Simon-Says”) by arranging students in a row or rows at one end of the room, or have partners stand at a good distance facing one another. Teacher or student leader(s) will give instructions to other students (see examples of instructions below for suggestions). Also use the examples that students shared in step 1. After student completes the action they take a step forward. When they reach the other end of the room or their partner they get to share their toys with their friend or engage in a fun activity with their friend.

*Examples of instructions/actions:*

- Give the person next to you a high five.
  - Tell the person to your left what your favorite thing to do is.
  - Give a classmate a compliment.
  - Thank the person next to you for something nice that they did.
  - Say something nice to the student next to you.
  - Greet the person to your right in a nice way.
  - Tell the student next to you why they are a good friend.
3. Acknowledge any student who shared interesting or unique statements. Model what was said for the rest of the class.

**WRAP UP:** Ask students to discuss what they learned from the friend-says game. Remind students that being a good friend takes a lot of work. They have to remember to practice saying and doing some of the things they did today.

**ARTS SUPPLEMENT:** Assign students to small groups and have them write and perform either (a) a song using one of the Buckalope Elementary Song Starter Templates or (b) a short skit using the Buckalope Elementary Dialogue Starter Template.

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<sup>1</sup> American School Counselor Association (ASCA) National Standards for Student Competencies (2005). <http://ascamodel.timberlakepublishing.com/files/NationalStandards.pdf>

