

A Friend is Someone Who Likes You

by Joan Walsh Anglund

Celebrate 20 years with Joan Walsh Anglund by rediscovering her uniquely illustrated and timeless story. Children will learn that a friend can be a tree, a pond, a cat or someone they least expect.



Read

Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *Where can you find a friend?* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an “I wonder” statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder what the children are eating on their picnic?

During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Point out “rare words” (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

Rare Words in *A Friend is Someone Who Likes You*

- different: unlike, not the same as something or someone else
- splashy: to scatter liquid in large drops of water
- gurgle: to make deep bubbling noise that liquids make when it is being poured out
- notice: somebody’s attention or observation
- hurrying: to rush or to go somewhere very quickly
- brook: a small freshwater stream

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- Who is a friend?
- Can a boy or girl be your friend?
- What kind of animals can be your friend?
- How can a tree be your friend?
- In what ways can a brook be a friend?
- How can wind be a good friend?
- Why do you sometimes not notice a friend?
- Where did you find your friend?

Do

Friend Scavenger Hunt

Take a class nature walk and have the children use their eyes and ears to find new friends. Talk about all the things in nature, other people in their environment and community, which could be classified as a friend. After the walk, return to the classroom and make a list of all the things they saw. Then have the children draw a picture of their new friend and display the artwork on a "Friend" bulletin board, wall, and window or on a table.