

ACTIVITY TIME

Will You Be My Friend?

Sam McBratney and Anita Jeram

A heart-warming new story from the creators of the beloved classic *Guess How Much I Love You*, that celebrates magic of making new friends.

Let's go on a picnic!

You will need

- You and your preschooler
- Picnic rug or blanket
- Healthy snacks and drinks
- Plates and cups
- Friends or toys.

What to do

1. Set up a picnic together in your backyard or local park.
2. You can invite some friends or bring along your favourite teddy bears.
3. Lay down your picnic rug or blanket and set out some plates, bowls and cups for each teddy or friend.
4. Talk with your toddler about what food and drinks you will have? Who will you invite to your picnic? It could be for a toy, a family member, a friend, or someone from their imagination. Who are your friends and what do you love about them?
5. Enjoy your picnic snacks together! Spend time chatting and talking, letting your child direct the conversation.

Other ideas

Make some invites for your friends or teddy bears to invite them to your picnic or afternoon tea. Decorate your invites and send them in the post. Discuss with your child about how they can make the picnic special for their friend. What is their friend's favourite snack? Talk with your preschooler about making friends. How do we make friends? What makes a good friend?

More information

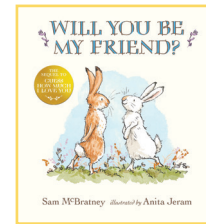
Some of the most important learning takes place in a child's first five years. Young children need opportunities to discover early in life how to share, to be patient, to manage their emotions and to develop empathy – to understand how others may be feeling. It takes practice and repeated experiences from watching role models for children to being to understand these concepts.

Songs

Teddy Bear's Picnic - <https://youtu.be/sIW324ekXKc>, *If You're Happy and You Know It*, *Polly Put The Kettle On*.

Key message

Children learn through being engaged and doing.



Adult supervision is required at all times when children play or are around water.



*You can introduce simple Science Technology, Engineering & Maths (STEM) concepts to children aged 2+ years through every day play.

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