

'Making friends' – project plan

This programme is designed for use with family groups or adults working with young children.

The main aim is to develop an understanding of friendship, and of how we help each other. The project can focus on what is important in a family, in a home, in a town or city. Participants use simple craft materials such as stones, wool, fabric and glue to make little friends and then everyday junk boxes and bits and pieces to create homes for them. In schools this has usually been done in two sessions but with under fives the process can be more organic and probably take considerably longer.

Through a fun activity, people are engaged and encouraged to talk about what matters in life, what might be frightening, or what someone might dream of.

Most of the work will be done in small groups round a table with plenty of time for talking. The sessions are informal but should still help people develop skills in sharing, listening, taking part, speaking up and being creative.

