

Early Years Foundation Stage

Unit title: **Aspects of Identity & Relationships: Ourselves**

The Gotcha Smile: How do we make friends?

Context	Key underlying ideas/concepts
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Starting school can be a difficult time for childrenAdults give advice that sometimes doesn't quite match children's experiencesMost people learn that how we behave to others is often mirrored or reflected back: this is the truth behind using a 'gotcha smile'Body language (such as a smile) affects other people	<ul style="list-style-type: none">New beginnings: feeling lonelyFriendship: real and imposedPatience/perseverance: eg trying different ways of getting along with othersIdentity eg establishing your 'presence' within a group
Links to Early Learning Goals	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Communication, language and literacy: language for communicationPersonal, social and emotional, development, settling children into the setting	
Main elements of the unit	Suggestions for practical activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Exploring children's own experiences of change and friendship	Questions could include <ul style="list-style-type: none">How did you feel when you first came to this class?Who did you tell?How did you make friends?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Telling the story (Use the Story Sack)	Read the story and ask questions eg: <ul style="list-style-type: none">How did Clarine feel when she had no-one to play with?Why didn't the cherries or the ball help Clarine to make friends?What did help Clarine to make friends?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Exploring the 'smile' as an example of body language	Activities could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Circle Time focus: Passing the smile round the circle and asking 'How do you feel?'Painting or drawing pictures of themselves with a friendMake and display a list of rules for cooperative play
Key questions to ask	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">When have you felt lonely?Who is your friend, and why?	
Story sack	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Gotcha Smile by Rita Phillips Mitchell, Orchard Books, ISBN 1-86039-951-7mirror : to look at smilespicture of cherriesa ball	