



Students create invitations for a friend to join them at an activity, class, or function.



Construction paper for all students; Pencils or pens; Markers, colored pencils, and/or crayons; Scissors to share; Glue to share.

Total Prep Time: 5 mins.



As this is the first Monday of the month, please consider sharing the Monthly Kick-Off activity, and if appropriate, video at www.everymondaymatters.org.

4 C's		SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL LEARNING		SERVICE LEARNING	
•	Critical thinking	•	Self-awareness	•	Integrated learning
•	Communication	•	Self-management		High quality service
•	Collaboration	•	Social-awareness		Collaboration
•	Creativity	•	Relationship skills	•	Student voice
		•	Responsible decision-making		Civic responsibility
				•	Reflection
					Evaluation

GOALS FOR THE WEEK

- Explore how putting effort into relationships with others can change our lives and the quality of our “CONNECTIONS”
- Discover how we can build meaningful, two-sided relationships where we can count on each other
- Find new ways to make others feel special and cared for
- Understand how “FIND YOUR POSSE” is an important part of this month’s theme, “MONDAY GETS CONNECTED”



STUDENT ACTIVITY: **“BRING A FRIEND DAY”**

- 1) SHARE THE NAME OF THIS ACTIVITY WITH STUDENTS: “BRING A FRIEND DAY”**
- 2) ASK 1-3 QUESTIONS FROM THE LIST BELOW TO WARM STUDENTS UP ON THE ACTIVITY’S FOCUS:**

***NOTE:** *Choose questions appropriate to your students’ ages, grades, ability levels, and classroom goals. Students may share their answers in pairs, small groups, or as a large group.*

- **What does it mean to “FIND YOUR POSSE”?**
- **How often do you spend time with your “POSSE” or “FRIENDS”?**
- **Have you ever invited a “FRIEND” to go somewhere with you?**
 - Where did you invite them and how did it go?
- **Have you been invited to join a “FRIEND” somewhere?**
 - Where were you invited to go?
 - How did it make you feel to be invited to go somewhere with a “FRIEND”?
- **What are some classes or activities that you are involved with after school?**
- **Are there any places that you go or things that you do that you would love to introduce a “FRIEND” to?**
 - What are some of those places or things?
- **What is your favorite thing to do with your “POSSE”?**
- **What are some of the most fun things that you’ve done with your “POSSE”?**
- **Do you prefer doing things by yourself or with your “POSSE” or “FRIENDS”?**
- **How does it make you feel when you spend time with your “POSSE”?**
- **How do you think your “FRIENDS” or “POSSE” feel when they spend time “CONNECTING” with you?**
- **How can spending time with your “POSSE” help you “GET CONNECTED” in meaningful ways?**
- **Why is it important to “FIND YOUR POSSE”?**
- **How can “FINDING YOUR POSSE” help you know that YOU MATTER?**
- **How can spending meaningful time with your “POSSE” or “FRIENDS” help you all know that WE MATTER?**

- 3) SET UP THE “BRING A FRIEND DAY” ACTIVITY:**

- **Explain:**
 - “FINDING OUR POSSES” can be a fun way to “CONNECT” with others, especially when we get to “BRING” others into our lives by sharing experiences with them
 - Some of us are involved with different activities, like classes or lessons we take, places we visit regularly, or sports that we play
 - Not everyone does the same activities
 - When we share the activities we do with others, it can be a fun way to “GET CONNECTED”
 - And, we might even show someone else a fun activity that they didn’t know about or know that they enjoyed!
- **Ask:**
 - What would it be like to “BRING A FRIEND” to an activity that you do?
 - What is an activity, place, or part of your life that you would like to “BRING A FRIEND” to?
 - What in your life would you like to share with others?
 - Are you ready to “GET CONNECTED” and “BRING A FRIEND”?

- 4) START THE “BRING A FRIEND DAY” ACTIVITY:**

- **Pass out construction paper, pencils or pens, and markers, colored pencils, and/or crayons to each student, plus scissors and glue to share**
- **Ask students to quickly share out some ideas of where they spend a lot of time or do activities**
 - Possible places and activities include dance class, piano lessons, the local park or playground, a favorite restaurant, a family member’s house, swimming class, and soccer practice

- **Explain:**

- Now that we have some ideas of places we go and activities that we spend our time on, we will each decide on one place or activity that we would like to “BRING A FRIEND” to
- After you choose where or what you want to “BRING A FRIEND” to, you will decide who you want to invite and make an invitation for them using the materials you have in front of you
- Then, later this week, you will deliver your invitation and coordinate the details of the “BRING A FRIEND DAY,” giving you an opportunity to “CONNECT” with a “FRIEND” in a new way
- **If helpful, you can give students the example of “Take Your Son or Daughter to Work Day” which happens once a year, where kids get to go with their parent or guardian to work to “CONNECT” with them in a new way. Share with students that this “DAY” that they are planning with a “FRIEND” is very similar**
- **Ask students to include all important information on the invitations, such as who they are inviting, to what they are inviting them to, when, where, and why**
- **Tell students they can make their invitation however they want to, but encourage them to make their invitation themed based on the activity that they’re inviting their “FRIEND” to**
- For example, if they are inviting a “FRIEND” to a piano practice or recital, their invitation can look like a piano or incorporate musical notes; if they are inviting their “FRIEND” over for dinner, they can decorate it with food
- **Make sure students understand the instructions and ask them to begin on their invitations for “BRING A FRIEND DAY”**
- **Allow students up to 10 minutes to create their “BRING A FRIEND DAY” invitations**
- **When time is up, ask for a few volunteers to share out their invitations, who they are inviting, and what they’ll be doing with their “FRIENDS”**
- **Then, have students take the invitations with them and encourage them to hand them out by the end of the week and “BRING A FRIEND” to an activity to “CONNECT” with them**

5) AFTER THE ACTIVITY, ASK 1-3 OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS TO HELP STUDENTS REFLECT ON WHAT THEY’VE ACCOMPLISHED AND HOW THEY CAN TAKE THIS FORWARD:

***NOTE:** *Choose questions appropriate to your students’ ages, grades, ability levels, and classroom goals. Students may share their answers in pairs, small groups, or as a large group.*

- **What was it like to think of an activity that you can “BRING A FRIEND” to?**
- **What activity or place did you decide on and why?**
- **Who will you invite to your activity?**
 - Why did you choose this person?
- **Are you excited for your “FRIEND” to join you in something that you do normally in your life?**
- **What will you show your “FRIEND” as they come with you to the activity or place that you’ve chosen?**
- **How will “BRINGING A FRIEND” help you “GET CONNECTED” with your “POSSE”?**
- **How might your “FRIEND” feel when you invite them to come along with you to your activity or place?**
- **Why is it important to invite people into your life as you try to “FIND YOUR POSSE”?**
- **Do you think it’s always easy to ask people to come with you to places and activities that are important to you?**
- **Why is it important to “FIND YOUR POSSE” in life?**
- **How can “FINDING YOUR POSSE” help you “GET CONNECTED” in a way that MATTERS?**
- **How can “FINDING YOUR POSSE” help you know that YOU MATTER?**
- **How can “FINDING YOUR POSSE” help show others that they MATTER?**
- **What would the world be like if we all “GOT CONNECTED” and “FOUND OUR POSSE” more often?**

- 6) **THANK STUDENTS FOR BRAINSTORMING TOGETHER AND INVITING A “FRIEND” TO “BRING A FRIEND DAY” AS THEY DISCOVER NEW WAYS TO “FIND THEIR POSSE.” REMIND THEM THAT THEY “MATTER” AND SO DOES “CONNECTING” IN NEW AND EXCITING WAYS.**
- 7) **ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO HAND OUT THEIR “BRING A FRIEND DAY” INVITATIONS THIS WEEK AND FOLLOW THROUGH ON IT. DISCUSS WHAT IT’S LIKE TO “BRING A FRIEND” TO SOMETHING OR SOMEWHERE MEANINGFUL, AND HOW IT HELPED STUDENTS “GET CONNECTED” IN A NEW WAY.**
- 8) **CONTINUE EXPLORING HOW TO “CONNECT” WITH YOUR “POSSE” BY LEADING ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING EXTENSION IDEAS.**



EXTENSION IDEAS:

DO ONE OR MORE OF THESE EXTENSION IDEAS TO BRING THE LESSON FROM 15 MINUTES TO 30 MINUTES OR MORE.

- 1) **“Bring a Friend Day” Scrapbook:** As students go on their “BRING A FRIEND DAY” with their “FRIENDS,” have them take photos and write down fun memories. They can then use those photos and memories to create a fun scrapbook to commemorate the day. Encourage students to have even more “BRING A FRIEND DAYS” and have them keep updating their scrapbooks so they can see all the ways they “GET CONNECTED” with their “POSSES.”
- 2) **Share Out:** Set a time the following week for students to share out about their “BRING A FRIEND DAY” experiences. Have them bring in pictures or anything from the day they have. Ask them how it felt to experience their day with a “FRIEND” and if they would invite their “FRIEND” back. And, ask them to reflect on what it’s like to be more “CONNECTED” through this experience.

“THERE IS NOTHING ON THIS EARTH MORE TO BE PRIZED THAN TRUE FRIENDSHIP.”

- THOMAS AQUINAS