

Home-School Connections: Home Activities
Peer Relationships Unit

Your child is learning about **Peer Relationships** in the Sanford Harmony social-emotional learning program. The ideas below will reinforce what we are learning in school—there are activities to play, topics to discuss, and behaviors to role-model. These are all designed to fit into your daily routine and provide opportunities to further connect with your child.

- Encourage your child to make friends with diverse peers. Interacting and building close ties with a diverse peer offers children the opportunity to broaden their perspectives, learn new skills, challenge existing stereotypes, and practice diverse interaction styles.
- Ask your child about the characteristics and behaviors that he or she listed on his or her Friendship Pledge. Develop and display a Family Pledge at home to encourage all family members to commit to treating each other in positive and respectful ways.
- Meet with your family to identify ways you can support each other and distribute “I’ve Got Your Back” tickets (or tokens, marbles, etc.) when you observe one another engaging in these behaviors. Once you reach a certain number of tickets, celebrate with a special activity.
- We will learn about effective strategies for handling bullying situations at school. Discuss the negative consequences of bullying with your child and encourage him or her to speak up if he or she, or someone he or she knows, is being bullied. Encourage and reinforce positive and inclusive behaviors toward peers.

An important part of this program is for students to continue discussing and practicing concepts outside the classroom. Thank you for your involvement in reinforcing at home what is being taught in class!