

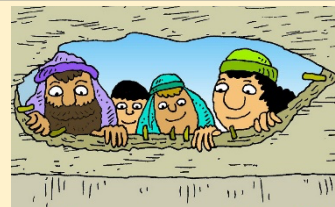
Friendship



Sticking by someone is called loyalty. Building trust and loyalty can take hard work over a long time – but a true friend is a very special gift indeed. We see some friends a lot; others less often. Friends come in all shapes and sizes and even different ages.



The Bible and Friendship



In the town of Capernaum, a crowd gathered. There was a buzz in the air and people were whispering excitedly.

Four friends were listening. They heard the same name getting repeated – “Jesus,” they heard, “Jesus is here!”

Without waiting a moment, the four friends dashed back to their side of the town. They had heard all about Jesus and the things he had been doing, and they knew someone who needed his help.

Back near their homes, they saw another friend of theirs. He didn't stand up or run to greet them. He couldn't – he was paralysed and unable to use his legs. The four friends knew Jesus could help if they could just get him there.

Summoning up all their strength, the four friends hoisted up their other friend on a mat. They each took a corner and carried him right through the town, even in the heat.

Arriving at the house where Jesus was, they saw loads of people outside – but this didn't stop them. They carried their friend up onto the roof.

Even then they didn't stop. They carefully pulled back the wooden beams and the dried mud that made the roof and they made a hole. When the hole was large enough, they passed down their friend to Jesus gently using knotted ropes.

Jesus smiled kindly through the hole at the four friends. Then he smiled at the man on the mat.

“Pick up your mat,” Jesus said, “and go home.”

And with a happy skip, that's exactly what the healed man did.

Friendship Quote

'If you haven't learned the meaning of friendship, you really haven't learned anything.'

Mohammed Ali – champion boxer



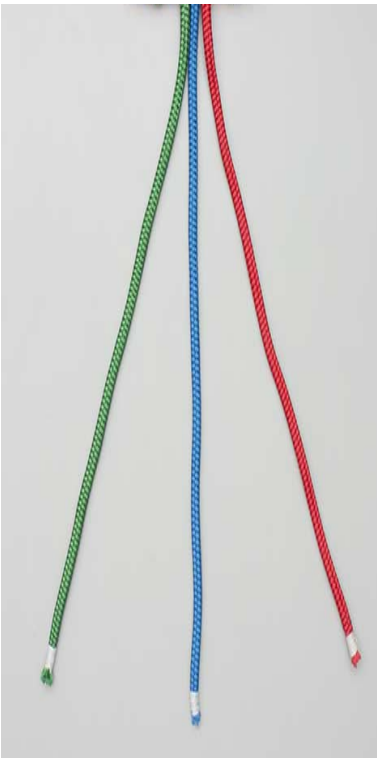
Many dogs are known to be loyal, faithful friends - but perhaps this dog in Japan was the most loyal of them all.

Hachiko belonged to Eizaburo Ueno. Every day the man took his dog to the train station in Tokyo and headed to work. Later in the day, the dog always returned to greet his owner.

One day, Eizaburo never returned. He had had an accident. Hachiko was taken in by another family, but for the next ten years, at the same time every day, he headed to the Tokyo train station to wait for his friend. That's loyalty!



Make a friendship band



position.

1. Take three strands of wool in different colours.
2. Tie them together in a knot, and then secure this to a hard surface using tape (or ask someone to hold it).
3. Arrange the three strands as shown.
4. Choose your left strand (green here) to start with. Cross it over the middle strand so it now becomes the central piece of wool.
5. Next, pick up the right strand of wool (red here). Cross this over into the middle (now green), so you have a new central strand again.
6. Lastly, take the left strand (now blue) and cross it over so it ends up in the middle again.
7. Keep to the same colour order all the way through the plaiting process. Here you would continue with green, red, blue taking turns to go into the middle

Challenge:

How many words can you make from the word:

f r i e n d s h i p s