

Home Letter

What Is a Pal?
Home Letter

Dear Family,

During the next few weeks, we'll explore the theme **Around the Neighborhood**. As we read, real and fictional characters will take us on adventures in familiar places—at school, at home, and in the community. Children will explore the Big Idea “Everyone can be a good neighbor.”

This week we'll start with a look at friends, one of the most important parts of any neighborhood! Children will explore the question “What is important about being a friend?” In the informational text **What Is a Pal?** children will read about the ways in which friends play together and help each other. Children will also read **Friends Forever**, poems about what friendship means.

This week's...

Words to Know: and, be, help, play, with, you

Phonics Skills: Words with short *a* (*am, man, pat*); consonants *n, d, p, f*

Vocabulary Strategy: Classification/categorization of words—actions

Comprehension Skill: Main idea—tell important ideas about a topic

Comprehension Strategy: Summarize—stop to tell important events as you read

Writing Focus: Writing about us—labels

Activities to Do Together

Vocabulary

See how many of this week's **Words to Know** you and your child can use in one sentence.

Find a Friend

Tell your child the story of how you met one of your friends. What did you do that helped you become friends? Together, talk about places your child could meet new friends, such as the playground or the beach.

A Poem About Pals

Talk with your child about what makes someone a friend. Together, brainstorm words related to friendship. Then ask your child to use the words to write a poem about friendship.



Go to the *Student eBook* to read and listen to this week's selection.