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Brownie Friendship Bingo!

**Aim:** For Brownies to learn more about their Brownie friends.

**Equipment:** Template below (1 per Brownie) and pens or pencils.

**Activity:** Ask the Brownies to complete the Bingo card below (you could use the template below or replace the examples shown to reflect your unit) by talking to other Brownies in the group and asking them questions to find who fits the descriptions. When you have had a ‘yes’ from a girl, the Brownie must ask her to sign the box. Ask the Brownies to not go back to the same people with another question until they have spoken to everyone else first.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Owns a dog or a cat…</th>
<th>Likes vegetables…</th>
<th>Plays a musical instrument…</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1.png" alt="Image of a cat" /></td>
<td><img src="image2.png" alt="Image of vegetables" /></td>
<td><img src="image3.png" alt="Image of piano" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Loves oranges…</th>
<th>Likes reading…</th>
<th>Loves or hates chocolate…</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image4.png" alt="Image of an orange" /></td>
<td><img src="image5.png" alt="Image of a book" /></td>
<td><img src="image6.png" alt="Image of chocolate" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Went on a plane in the last 12 months…</th>
<th>Enjoys cooking…</th>
<th>Has nice handwriting…</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image7.png" alt="Image of a plane" /></td>
<td><img src="image8.png" alt="Image of cooking" /></td>
<td><img src="image9.png" alt="Image of handwriting" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Likes to sing…</th>
<th>Has ever broken a bone…</th>
<th>Laughs all the time…</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image10.png" alt="Image of a smiley" /></td>
<td><img src="image11.png" alt="Image of a bone" /></td>
<td><img src="image12.png" alt="Image of laughing" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Identifying a Good Friend

Aim: For Brownies to discuss what makes a good friend.

Equipment: Template below to be cut out.

Activity: Before the meeting photocopy or print this page and cut out the boxes below. In the meeting divide the girls into groups e.g. into their Sixes and give them a few of the boxed statements (if possible a mixture of good friend and bad friend statements) and discuss as a unit what they think a good friend is and whether the boxes they have are for a good friend or a bad friend.

Place the other statements around the meeting hall and ask the Brownies to race and search in their groups for the opposite corresponding statement e.g. Bad friend / Does not care about what is good for you corresponds with Good friend / Takes care of the needs of others.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BAD FRIEND</th>
<th>GOOD FRIEND</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does not care about what is good for you</td>
<td>Takes care of the needs of others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ignores you or talks at you</td>
<td>Talks with you &amp; listens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does not care if you are sad</td>
<td>Cheers you up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tells other people your business</td>
<td>Can be trusted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lies to you</td>
<td>Will tell you the truth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is selfish with her belongings</td>
<td>Will share important belongings with you</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAD FRIEND</td>
<td>GOOD FRIEND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will not go out of their way to help you</td>
<td>Will be there if really needed, even if too busy or tired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doesn’t have the same sense of humour</td>
<td>You can have a good laugh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will ‘run away’ if things get tough</td>
<td>Will stand by you in tough times</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is unreliable &amp; lets you down a lot</td>
<td>Is reliable &amp; will rarely let you down</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will bully you or try to make you look stupid</td>
<td>Helps you to feel good about yourself</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doesn’t consider your feelings are important</td>
<td>Respects your feelings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can not forgive you for the slightest mistake</td>
<td>Is tolerant of your faults &amp; forgives you when you have done something wrong</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Give a Friend a Hand

**Aim:** To remind girls that we all can help each other. Friends need each other.

**Materials:** 1 large tree branch (leafless), or you could draw a large tree on a big piece of paper. Enough A4 size sugar paper in several colours, or (if you can do messy crafts), white A4 paper, poster paint and newspaper to protect the floor and tables. Thread and a hole punch.

**Activity:** Have each girl either:
Trace round her hand, with the fingers closed, like a mitten. Cut the hand out. She then writes her name on it. Punch hole and thread string through, knot.

Or (the messy choice): have two colours of paint for girls to choose between. Pour paint into a plate and have each girl dip her palm in lightly, then press it on the white paper. Allow to dry, then cut carefully round the hand, write her name with black pen, punch hole and thread string, knot. Deck the tree branch with the leaf-names. Talk about what you can do to help a friend, e.g. get help for her if she’s being bullied, stand up for her, listen to her.

Making Friendship Flowers

**Aim:** To let everyone see that they may share some of their good qualities with others but that there are lots of different good qualities in the unit and that is OK.

**Materials:**
- Pipe cleaners
- Sugar paper/tissue paper
- Paper glue
- Coloured pens
- Scissors

**Activity:** Cut out lots of flowers from the sugar paper/tissue paper in advance of the session. Get the girls to write down their favourite thing to do / something they are good at / something they like about themselves on each of the petals.

Using the pipe cleaners as the stem, stick the flower on the top quarter of the stem with the words facing outwards. Add leaves and wrap all pipe cleaners with paper to make them into a great bouquet of the girls’ good qualities.
Friendship Jewellery

**Aim:** To encourage girls to use skills they are learning, and to make new friends. They will make beads for a bracelet, and earn them by doing good, friendly deeds. Schedule this for after a discussion of what makes a friend, and what you can do to make a friend.

**Materials:** Old magazines / wrapping, / marbleised paper (any sturdy, pretty paper), scissors, glue or a glue stick, a sturdy drinking straw / chop stick / knitting needle, elastic thread / wool / sturdy string.

**Activity:** Select a piece of paper and begin to cut triangles from it, approximately 5cm across the bottom and 25 cm long—this will be your bead. Cut as many as you wish.

Place the paper triangle dull side up on the table. Lay the straw across the wide end. Tightly make two turns round the stick.

Cover the rest of the paper with glue, and then continue to make a tight roll to the tip, carefully ensuring the paper is rolled evenly.

When you come to the end, apply glue to the tiny tip, and hold it down till it adheres.

You should be able to slip the bead off the stick. Continue this process until you have the number you need.

Keep your beads in an envelope this week. Each girl should do anything she can think of to help an old friend and be kind to a new one. She could arrange a time to play with a new person, or sit with someone else at dinner time. She could make a project with an old friend and try something completely new. She could talk about what they’d do if they ever got angry with each other, for instance. Write down what she did and bring it to a discussion at the next meeting. She can tell the group about what she accomplished, and string a bead for each good deed to make a pretty necklace or bracelet.
Friendship Quilts

**Aim:** To work together as a unit and be able to see each other’s good points.

**Materials:** You may choose to do this using either paper and scraps, or cloth and textile paints.

Easiest: A sheet of coloured paper for each girl. An assortment of scrap - cotton wool balls, crayons, markers, sequins, string, ribbon, old magazines, wrapping paper etc., glue.

More ambitious: squares of inexpensive white fabric, the ends cut with pinking shears so it won’t unravel. Fabric markers or paints.

**Activity:** A friendship quilt is an old American custom that can be replicated easily. Once, women would sew these for a new bride, or a friend who was going away. Each woman decorated a square, and then all were sewn together, reminding the recipient of all her friends.

Give each Brownie a piece of paper or fabric. Ask them to decorate as they wish and place their own name in the design.

In addition, cut out a white block per girl and write her name at the top. Then ask the girls to think about what they value about each of the other girls in the group e.g. Amy makes me laugh, Hattie is always kind, Sophie likes to read, etc. Ask the girls to fill in the blank blocks with a selection of these kind comments for their friends.

Collect all the blocks and attach them to each other, alternating a white block with a block made by a girl. (You can use tape on the back for paper blocks; for the fabric use a quick stitch or fabric glue).

Hang your Friendship Quilt - Brownies will be happy to see their handy work, and the compliments they receive. You can talk about working together as a team and how everyone contributes something.
Brownie Unit Poem

**Aim:** A fun way to think about what Brownies know about friendship.

**Materials:** Pencil, A3 sheet of paper, plus crayons if girls want to illustrate each poem.

**Activity:** An acrostic poem is written by putting a saying or word down the left side, then going back and filling out each line. Make the first letter bold, so a reader can read the left-hand message.

*Sue felt so bad.*
*All her friends had run away,*
*Yelling mean things.*

**No friends!**
*Oh, how sad!*

*Till she saw the new girl*
*Out by the swings.*

*But she was all alone*
*Until Sue walked over to her.*
*Let’s play!*
*Let’s swing!*
*You sit, and I’ll push!*
*In a minute, both were laughing.*
*Now they were friends.*
*Good friends are there to be found.*

As a unit make one for the word BROWNIES e.g. B = Best. If it’s too hard to make a poem, you could choose words that begin with the letters in Brownies that have a friendship theme.

**Take it further**
If any of the Brownies want to take this further, you could ask the Brownies to make their own acrostic poem with one of their Brownie friend's names. Pair up the girls to ensure everyone’s name is done. Suggest to the Brownies they write positive, nice things they like about their partner.

e.g.
S miling
O pen
P retty
H elpful
I ntelligent
E legant
Come In!

**Aim:** All girls like to spend time in their rooms and privacy is important. Still, talking problems out with a good friend or a parent is an important habit to form, and a welcoming sign could signal it’s time to talk. A make-your-own door hanger will cue visitors.

**Materials:** One sheet of shirt cardboard per girl, crayons, markers, scissors and pieces of ribbon. Download and print out the door hanger and kite template.

**Activity:** Photocopy the door hanger pattern and the kite triangle pattern below - 1 per Brownie. Stick the door hanger pattern to the shirt cardboard and cut out. To make the 3-D kite, simply bend lightly across the centre, both ways. Cut out and decorate the kite, then attach the kite to the door hanger and make a ribbon kite tail, with bows tied along its length.

Brownies may need help cutting out the inner circle on the door hanger pattern.

You can have different door hangers depending on how you are feeling. Perhaps write COME IN, WELCOME or OPEN on the front.

Cut out and decorate the kite before attaching to your door hanger.

*Kite Pattern*
Come In! continued

*Door Hanger Pattern*
Friendship Songs

Songs like these can either be woven into their plays, or be part of the meeting. Sing a few of these songs as a unit activity.

You are my Best Friend
To the tune of “You are my Sunshine”

You are my best friend,
My very best friend,
You make me happy
All the time.
I’ll be your best friend,
Your very best friend,
Until the end of time.

Challenge the girls to make actions for the song!

Will you be a friend of mine?

Form the girls in a circle, with one in the middle. Join hands and circle the centre person and sing the first line together. Then the centre girl sings second line and inserts an action of her choice. In the next verse all girls sing and imitate the action. Take turns in the centre.

Tune: Mary had a little lamb

Will you be a friend of mine, a friend of mine, friend of mine?
Will you be a friend of mine and (insert an action, like jump, clap, smile) around with me?

Yes, I’ll be a friend of yours, friend of yours, friend of yours.
Yes, I’ll be a friend of yours and (action) around with you.

The More we Get Together

Tune: Did you ever see a lassie? Stand up to sing.

The more we (get...wiggle...jump...make faces...pat our head...bark...) together, together, together,
The more we get together, the happier we will be.
For your friends are my friends,
And my friends are your friends,
The more we get together, the happier we will be.
Make new friends

This little song is the song most loved among American girl scouts and can be sung as a round, if you’re brave enough. Have each group enter after the second line.

Make new friends, but keep the old. One is silver and the other gold.

Make new friends
But keep the old.
One is silver,
The other is gold.

Optional verses:

A circle is round,
It has no end.
That’s how long
I will be your friend.

You help me,
And I’ll help you,
And together we
Will see it through.

Across the land,
Across the sea,
Friends forever
We will always be.
Let’s Make Friends

Aim: This cooking activity is to demonstrate that although the ingredients are all different, they can mix together and be very good. All people are different (hair, skin, size, ability, etc.) but can mix together and be very good friends.

There are two recipes listed. The first one will take longer to do.

Materials: Sugar cookie dough, heart-shaped cutter, oven, pans, soft icing, assorted sprinkles e.g. dots, hundreds and thousands, etc.

Activity: Buy (or make, using the recipe below) sugar cookie dough, and bring to the meeting. Let each girl roll out and cut out a heart, then bake it and allow to cool. (This could also be prepared to this point at home and brought to the meeting). Each girl decorates her cookie to perfection, then carefully cuts it lengthwise so there are two equal halves. Then share with another girl. Can also be done with pre-made cupcakes. Bring icing and decorating things (tube icing, chocolate chips, etc.) and let each girl do a portrait of another on the cupcake. Share.

Recipe for old fashioned sugar cookies (to be cut into shapes):
3 cups (270 grams) sifted all purpose flour
1½ teaspoons baking powder
½ teaspoon salt
1 cup (90g) white sugar
1 cup (220 g) butter
1 egg, lightly beaten
3 tablespoons cream
1 tsp vanilla extract (the good stuff)

Preheat oven to 200°C

Over a large bowl, sift together the all-purpose flour, baking powder, salt and sugar. Cut in the butter and blend with a pastry blender until the mixture resembles breadcrumbs. Stir in the egg, cream and vanilla. Blend well. The mixture may be chilled. On a floured surface, roll out to the thickness of card; ⅛ inch. Cut into shapes, bake and decorate.
If you are short of time try this recipe -
Materials: cupcakes, prepared icing, small sweeties, plastic spoons or spreaders.

Bring prepared but un-iced cupcakes to the meeting. (You can buy these, or whip up a prepared mix). Pair up the girls, and ask them to make a portrait of the other’s face on the cupcake. Don’t expect accurate representations. As they work, they can tell their partner something about them that is outstanding - whether it’s her kindness, her big brown eyes or her ideas.

While they eat their cakes, ask for each girl to tell the group what her partner’s best point is, and list it on a poster, e.g. “Alex is really funny.” Talk about looking for what’s special about each girl.
Friendship Wordsearch

Here is a wordsearch activity to be photocopied (one per Brownie). All the words that need to be found help describe a good friend!

Find these hidden words.

HAPPY   HUGS   HELPFUL   BEST
CARING   LOYAL   FUN   MY
SMILES   FRIENDS   SHARING   POLITE