



# Relationship Skills

second step

## ABOUT COMMITTEE FOR CHILDREN

SEL Academic Integration Activities are designed for K–8 classroom teachers. These simple activities integrate self-regulation and social-emotional concepts and skill practice into academic areas (literacy, math, science, social studies, fine art, music, and physical education). The activities are adapted from Second Step: Skills for Social and Academic Success.

# Literacy, Problems in Stories about Friendship

By: Second Step



## Literacy

### Problems in Stories About Friendship

Select a beginning-reader book about friendship, such as *Frog and Toad Are Friends* by Arnold Lobel, *Little Bear* by Else Holmelund Minarik, or *George and Martha* by James Marshall. Have students read the book twice. First have students read through the book on their own or have them take turns reading it out loud to the entire class or in small groups. Have the first reading happen without interruption. Before students read it the second time, ask: **What do the characters in the book do when they have a problem with their friendship?** Then have students start reading the book again. Have students raise their hands when they find the solution to the friendship problem in the story. When most students have found the solution, ask: **Is the solution safe and respectful? Is it a solution you think would work if you had a problem with a friend?** At the end of the story, ask: **What did the characters do to keep their friendship going?**

**Excerpted from:** Academic Integration Activities in the *Second Step* Grade 1 Problem Solving Unit

**Unit goal:** To develop students' ability to solve problems in safe and respectful ways. To develop students' skills were making and keeping friends

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Early Learning—Grade 8

The research-based *Second Step* program teaches students social-emotional skills that help prevent problem behaviors; build safe, supportive schools; and empower success.