**Theme Packets   Friends**

**Rhymes and Fingerplays**

**A Smile**
You cannot give a smile away  
No matter what you do.  
Every time you give me one  
I'll give it back to you!

**Make New Friends**
Make new friends, but keep the old,  
One is silver and the other gold.  
A circle's round, it has no end,  
That's how long I want to be your friend.

**Look at the Apple**
Look at the apple I have found  
So red and rosy on the ground  
We'll wash it and cut it in two  
Half for me and half for you

**Gold Ships**
There are gold ships,  
There are silver ships,  
But there's no ship  
Like friendship.

**I Roll the Ball...**
Using a large rubber or nerf ball, chant or sing...  
I roll the ball to (child's name)  
They roll the ball to (another child's name)  
Go around until everyone has had a turn.  
Assist children with remembering names if needed.  
A wonderful game for helping children get to know one  
another in a preschool or childcare room.

**The More We Get Together**
The more we get together,  
Together, together,  
The more we get together,  
The happier we'll be.  
For your friends are my friends  
And my friends are your friends  
The more we get together,  
The happier we'll be.  
There's Megan and Jonathan and Sasha and Taylor...  
*Mention all the children's names and end with  
The more we get together the happier we'll be!*

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**Things to do Together**

- Help your child write/draw a letter to a friend, cousin, grandparent who lives far away. Let children dictate to you and write down what they say but also include their own writing and artwork. Mail the letter together. It's even more fun when they receive a letter back.
- Together, name your child's friends. Write them on a piece of paper. Ask your child what their favorite thing is about each of these friends and write this next to their name.
- Write down your child's name also. Talk about/write down the good friendship qualities that you have seen your child express when they are playing with their friends.
- Make something special for a neighbor (muffins, cookies, a card, etc.) and deliver it together.

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**Other Resources**

*Creative Play for Your Baby* by Christopher Clouder