

Friendship Festival Passport Activity

Promote empathy, kindness, and a community of friendship in your home or classroom with this Friendship Festival Passport Activity!

These Friendship Festival Passports and Kindness Guides are a fun, interactive way to teach and practice social-emotional skills.

Guide your students through a world of cooperation with these ideas for hosting a Friendship Festival in your home or classroom.

Printables

- Friendship Festival Passport
- 4 Kindness Guides
- *Optional:* Friendship Stations Signs (can print multiple to create banners)

Supplies

- Printer
- Scissors
- Stamps (or markers/stickers) to mark each completed Passport page
- Paper
- Crayons or colored pencils (for coloring Passports)

Getting Ready

- Print the Passport with these settings: double-sided, flip on long edge (so that passport page 5 should be on the back of passport page 6).
- Print the 4 Kindness Guides, single-sided.
- *Optional:* Print the Stations Signs page, single-sided, and cut on the dashed lines (print multiple copies to create festive banners for each station or classroom).



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Student-Friendly Introduction

“Today we’re starting something special called the **Friendship Festival!** Instead of exploring new places, we’re going to explore different ways to be kind and caring friends.

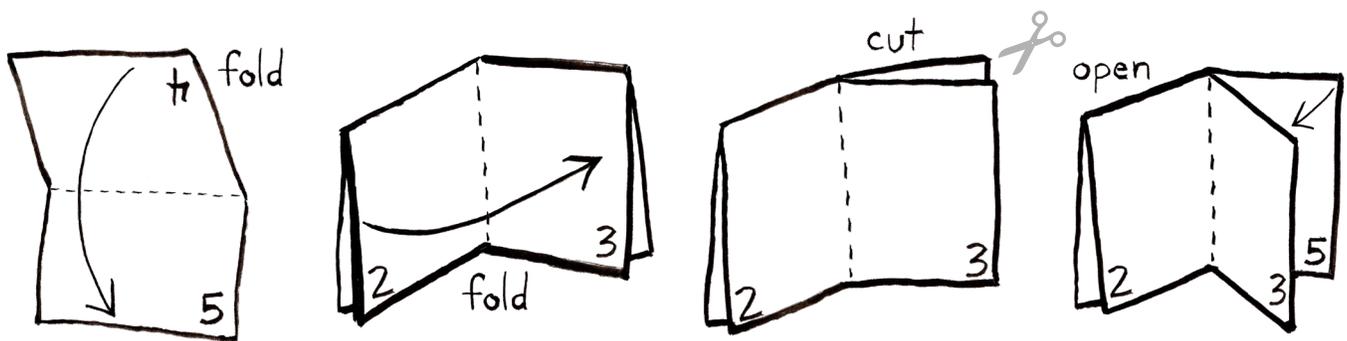
Each of you will get a **Friendship Passport**, and every time you practice being a good friend—like helping, listening, cheering someone on, or giving a kind compliment—you’ll earn a stamp in your passport.

As we move through the festival, you’ll learn new ways to show you care about others and build a happy, friendly community together.”

Create the Passports

Guide your students step by step:

- 1) Cut out the passport along the solid gray line.
- 2) Fold the page in half so **number 4 meets number 5**. Crease.
- 3) Fold in half again so **number 2 meets number 3**. Crease.
- 4) Find the **STOP sign** where the folds meet on the spine of the Passport. On the top of page 3, cut the folded edge along the dashed line, **and STOP at the STOP sign**.
- 5) Open pages 4 and 5—your Passport is ready!
 - *If a student cuts all the way across, simply glue or tape the backs of pages 1 and 2 together.*
- 6) Write your name on the front cover. You’re ready for the Festival!



Hosting a Friendship Festival

Here are several ways to host a Friendship Festival celebration in your home or classroom:

Friendship Festival Stations

- 1) Set up **four stations** around your room, each with:
 - A Friendship Station Sign (optional)
 - One Kindness Guide
 - A stamp (or marker/stickers) to mark that Passport page complete
- 2) Direct students through the step-by-step instructions to create the Passports.
- 3) Students travel around the room in groups of 2–4 with their Passports.
- 4) At each station, students:
 - Learn about that type of kindness
 - Practice ways to be a good friend
 - Earn a stamp or mark in their Passport

Note: *If you have an odd number of students, you can place a stuffed animal or doll at each station as a buddy for students to practice their skills with.*

Friendship Festival Week

Incorporate the Passport into a week of social-emotional stories and lessons. Here are some ideas:

Day 1 – Prepare Passports

- 1) Create the Passports together and explain that students will use them all week.

Day 2 – Helping Hand

- 1) **Read** and discuss a story about offering help and noticing when someone needs help.
- 2) **Ask** and discuss: “Think about when someone offered to help you. How did it make you feel?”
- 3) **Discuss** ways to notice when someone may need help, and how to politely offer help before they are asked. Remind students that sometimes friends aren’t ready for our help, and that is okay, too. Use the **Helping Hand Kindness Guide** as a reference.
- 4) **Role play/practice** together or in small groups.
- 5) **We did it!** Put a stamp (or mark/sticker) on the Helping Hand Passport page.

Day 3 – Cheer Squad

- 1) **Read** and discuss a story about cheering on a friend for something they did or plan to do.
- 2) **Ask and discuss:** “Think about when someone cheered for or encouraged you. How did it make you feel?”
- 3) **Discuss** ways to notice when someone might need some encouragement. Are they nervous about a test, audition, game, or trying something new? How can friends give a boost of positive support? Use the **Cheer Squad Kindness Guide** as a reference.
- 4) **Role play/practice** together or in small groups.
- 5) **We did it!** Put a stamp (or mark/sticker) on the Cheer Squad Passport page.

Day 4 – Super Listener

- 1) **Read** and discuss a story about carefully listening to someone and how listening shows that you care.
- 2) **Ask** and discuss: “Think about when someone really listened to you. How did it make you feel?”
- 3) **Discuss** ways to show you are listening: your body is still, you are looking at them, you let them speak without interrupting. After listening, you can show you care by making positive comments or asking thoughtful questions about what they said. Use the **Super Listener Kindness Guide** as a reference.
- 4) **Role play/practice** together or in small groups.
- 5) **We did it!** Put a stamp (or mark/sticker) on the Super Listener Passport page.

Day 5 – Praise Pal

- 1) **Read** and discuss a story about complimenting someone on a special character trait and how to tell them you care.
- 2) **Ask** and discuss: “Think about when someone complimented you on a special trait. How did it make you feel?”
- 3) **Talk** about ways to think about what makes each person special, and how to praise them. This praise should be thoughtful and specific to that person’s character. Use the **Praise Pal Kindness Guide** as a reference.
- 4) **Role play/practice** together or in small groups.
- 5) **We did it!** Put a stamp (or mark/sticker) on the Praise Pal Passport page.

Wrap-up: Read the back page of the Passport and discuss how these are all ways to be good friends, be kind, and show we care.

Traveling Friendship Festival

Collaborate with several families or classrooms and create a different station in each location, so students actually travel from one place to the other.

Using ideas from the **Friendship Festival Stations** and **Friendship Festival Week** above, create festive, welcoming spaces for learning about each social-emotional skill.

Buddy Friendship Festival

Some students may benefit from practicing these social-emotional skills with a stuffed animal or other comfort buddy first.

Have students:

- Create a passport for their buddy as well as themselves
- Work through the stations together
- Practice these skills with their buddy
- Celebrate their successes together

When ready, they can use this experience to practice with peers.