



Making New Friends

Throughout the school year you will be receiving some information about child development, classroom connections, and how to support your child at home.

The ECS is participating in another year of Friendship Fun Days! This is a community building event which is held every other month. Students have the opportunity to learn a new social skill while visiting other classrooms and playing with different students from their grade level. We have completed our first event and will have four more this school year. Following are the social skills and teach points that we will be focusing on:

- **Introducing yourself to someone you don't know**
 - Make eye contact
 - Use a loud and proud voice
 - Say, "My name is _____. What's your name?"

- **Making a connection with a new friend**
 - Asking questions to discover what you have in common.
 - Examples - What's your favorite toy?, Do you have any brothers or sisters?, What is your favorite food?

- **Asking someone to play**
 - Move closer to your friends
 - Look at your friends using eye contact
 - Ask, "Can I play too?" or "Do you want to play?"

- **Sharing toys with friends**
 - Play together cooperatively (blocks, puzzles)
 - Trade and swap toys (cars, figurines)
 - Take reciprocal turns (board games)
 - Share (art supplies, playdoh)

- **Reading Others**
 - Understand what different emotions look like
 - Look at their face
 - Look at their body

Consider trying these at home! These are great social skills to encourage your child to use in any play situation. Ask your child about our Friendship Fun Days and what they learned about!