

School-Home Connection • Lesson 1

There is much to be discovered around the home and in your community.

Your child is reading the fiction story "The Hot and Cold Summer" by Johanna Hurwitz and the poem "Secret Talk" by Eve Merriam. In these selections, students will explore the challenges and rewards of friendship.

Vocabulary

pact	foisted	annoyed
queasy	venture	depriving

Guess the Word Give hints about each Vocabulary Word without naming it, and have your child guess the word. Here are some hints to get you started.

- You are feeling very *irritated*. (**annoyed**)
- We made a firm *agreement*! (**pact**)
- This person feels *ill*; his stomach is upset. (**queasy**)
- Making mud pies is not a good business *undertaking*. (**venture**)



Read Together



Encourage your child to read for at least 30 minutes outside of class each day. Look for these books at your local library. Have your child choose one to read with you.

- **Summersaults** by Douglas Florian. Greenwillow, 2002.
- **The Up & Down Spring** by Johanna Hurwitz. Morrow, 1993.
- **Last Summer with Maizon** by Jacqueline Woodson. Penguin, 2002.



Writing

Poem Ask your child to write a short poem about friendship. Your child could write about a specific friend, or about friendship in general. The poem doesn't have to rhyme. Invite your child to read aloud the finished piece.



Let's Talk About...

Friendship Use these discussion starters with your child to discuss "The Hot and Cold Summer."

- When I was your age, I had a friend named _____. Sometimes I worried that _____. Have you ever worried about a friendship?
- When I want my friends to know that I care about them, I do things like _____. What other things can people do to show that they care about their friends?
- My friends and I like to _____. What do you and your friends like to do?



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