

MOTIVATIONAL TECHNIQUES - FRIENDSHIP

o POEMS

Use poems or list of statements (see supplementary pages) on friendship as a focal point of a discussion or use as handouts at the end of class on friendship.

o PRISONER OF WAR

Ask students this question: If you were a prisoner of war and were looking for a friend among fellow prisoners of war, what personal characteristics would you look for in making your choice? Give students a paper and pencil and have them list these characteristics.

Discuss.

Questions to help discussion:

1. How can good friends keep us in contact with reality?
2. What enables friends to share their weaknesses with each other?
3. Why is friendship a risk?
4. Were there any times that you did not get along well because you did not get a little help from your friend?
5. What are some of the characteristics of a mature friendship?
6. Why isn't everyone a true friend?
7. Do you think it's possible to have a true friend?
8. If a friend we have trusted lets us down, does this mean he/she is not a true friend?
9. Is it possible to be a true friend to someone who desperately needs friendship but with whom you do not share any common interests?

- o Write the word FRIENDSHIP on the board. Ask students to think of friendships they have had and the positive and negative effects of these friendships. List their responses on the board. Then have the students think about and relate the positive and negative aspects of adult relationships they have observed. List these responses separately on the board. Ask students to discuss these lists.

What are the similarities in the lists?

What are the differences in the lists?

Discuss friendship in the context of pain and pleasure. Many of the same characteristics of early friendships are found in adult relationships.

- o Ask students to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the friendships they have seen on television programs.

What strengths and weaknesses were shared?

How did this affect the outcome of the story?

Did this friendship seem real? Why or why not?

(It might be well for the teacher to have some examples of TV relationships ready.)

You might also take this opportunity to talk about the sentimental version of friendship on some TV programs and friendship as it is in real life. With television programs as contrast, you might encourage students to speak more openly about real life as they experience it.