## Relationships

- The 4-year-old student learned the concept of empathy by understanding and recognizing the feelings and emotions of their new friends.
- Through making friends, the student developed social skills such as turn-taking, sharing, and engaging in cooperative play, fostering positive relationships and teamwork.
- The activity helped the student grasp the concept of communication by learning how to initiate conversations, listen actively, and express themselves effectively to connect with their new peers.

For continued development, encourage the child to practice empathy through role-playing scenarios with their friends, for example, pretending to comfort a friend who is upset. Encouraging them to take turns with others in games and activities can strengthen their cooperative skills, and read or tell stories about friendship and the importance of communication to reinforce the value of these concepts in making new friends.

## **Book Recommendations**

- <u>The Invisible Boy</u> by Trudy Ludwig: This book emphasizes empathy and friendship, teaching children about the impact of including others and standing up for what's right.
- <u>How to Be a Friend: A Guide to Making Friends and Keeping Them</u> by Laurie Krasny Brown and Marc Brown: This book is a helpful resource that explains the qualities of a good friend and offers strategies for making and maintaining friendships.

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