

Collective Worship



Cheeky Pandas[®]

Collective Worship

The Friend of Little Children

This Collective Worship session encourages the children to think about how Jesus welcomed the little children. It challenges the children to think about how they can be a good friend and show respect to everyone.

What you will need

- **The Jesus Storybook Bible (by Sally Lloyd-Jones)**
- **The Cheeky Pandas video "The Friend of Little Children"**
- **The picture of a person with their arms outstretched and a way to show it**

How it works

The following are suggestions of what you might include in this collective worship time. Please adapt to ensure it is appropriate for your context. It incorporates a Cheeky Pandas video for you to use. There is the option of a reflection or prayer activity depending on your setting.



CHEEKY PANDAS Collective Worship The Friend Sheet 2

Welcome

Greet the group in the way you usually would in your setting, e.g. Good morning everyone!
Let's find out what we are thinking about today.

Say: Today's theme is being a good friend. Together we're going to look at how the Bible tells us that Jesus welcomed everyone, including little children. Everyone was important to Jesus. This will help us to think about how we can welcome everyone, too. First we're going to have a game.

Invite three children up to the front and give them a series of challenges:

- Balance on one leg for as long as possible
- Hop on the other leg for as long as possible
- Jump the furthest distance from a standing start

Celebrate the winner in each category by saying "well done! You are the best balancer / hopper / jumper"

Say: Well done everyone. Today in our story the Cheeky Pandas are arguing over who is the best at different activities.

I wonder:

- What are you the best at?

Think about it and then share your answers with the person next to you.

The Cheeky Pandas Present...

Show the Cheeky Pandas video clip: **The Friend of Little Children**. This video is available at www.cheekypandas.com. Remember to pause this video before the Bible story starts.

Let's Chat

- Which is your favourite moment of the episode?
- Do you think it matters who is the best at something?
- What do you think Jesus would say?

Think about it and then share your answers with the person next to you.

The Jesus Storybook Bible

Say: Let's watch the Bible story now. This Jesus Storybook Bible video tells us the story of Jesus and the children and is from Matthew 18, 19, Mark 10 and Luke 18.

Continue the Cheeky Pandas video clip: [The Friend of Little Children](https://www.cheekypandas.com). This video is available at www.cheekypandas.com. Remember to continue this video from where the Bible story starts.

Let's Reflect

[Show the picture of a person carrying children]

Say: Let's reflect on what we've just heard. Jesus' friends really wanted to know who was the most important, but Jesus showed them that really wasn't a very important thing to know at all. Instead, Jesus welcomed the little children with His arms open wide.

Sometimes it can be hard if we don't feel very important. We might feel like we're very young, or that we don't have many friends, or we might feel like we have to compete with other people to be noticed and liked.

Have a think for a moment: how could you be a good friend to other people who might feel like this? Who could you go to if you feel like this yourself? How can we all show respect to everyone?

When you get back to your classrooms, you could write down any ideas you have.

Let's Pray

In our story today we heard that the children loved Jesus, and they knew they didn't need to do anything special for Jesus to love them. All they needed to do was to run into his arms. Christians believe that Jesus loves each of us. That we are all special to Him, known to Him, and loved by Him. We might feel unimportant at times, but Jesus welcomes us all, all the time.

So let's pray:

Dear God,

Thank you that Jesus loves us and welcomes us all. Thank you that you know us and love us and even think we're special. Thank you for the story and our time together today. AMEN.

Thank you for taking part in our time of collective worship. May you know the friendship and love of Jesus today.



For more Cheeky Pandas fun, head to [RaiseUpFaith.com](https://www.RaiseUpFaith.com). You'll find lesson plans (including even more activities and games) for churches to use in children's ministry, as well as collective worship sessions, perfect for primary schools.



RaiseUPFaith

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