



Head Start School Intervention Project
Making Memories: Friendship Beads

Goal of activity: Children exposed to violence have often experienced unexpected loss of important people in their lives. End of year transitions may trigger fear responses for children who have lost loved ones. This activity allows children to anticipate the changes that will take place at the end of the class year (such as losing contact with friends/teachers).

Approximate length of activity: 10 – 15 minutes

Materials: 3/4 c. flour, 1/2 c. corn flour, 1/2 c. salt, Powder Paint, 3/4 c. warm water
 Mix all ingredients in a bowl. Add water gradually until mix can be kneaded into a stiff dough. To reduce stickiness dust with dry flour. Pierce each bead with a toothpick or large blunt needle and allow to dry for a few days. Holes may need to be repunched before stringing. Paint if desired. Coating beads with clear gloss enamel brings out the color.

Instructional Procedures:

The teacher/aide will read a story about saying goodbye(see appendix) and explain that it can feel sad to say goodbye to our friends at the end of the year. The teacher/aide will show the students a completed friendship bracelet and explain that they can make beads to share with their friends and to help them remember their time in this class.

The teacher/aide will prepare the clay for the beads before the activity.

The teacher/aide will demonstrate how to roll small chunks into a bead.

The teacher/aide will work with students in small groups (2-4 students) to make fifteen beads per child.

The teacher/aide will place each set of beads on a paper plate labeled with the student's name to dry.





Feeling Good about Learning



Making and Keeping Friends



Making Meaning of My Experiences

 <p>KEY POINTS Becoming overwhelmed</p> <p><u>Dislikes texture of clay</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provide plastic gloves or bags for children to use for rolling. ○ Assist child with rolling clay and invite child's input by allowing child to choose color, size, shape of the beads created. <p><u>Dysregulation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Work one-on-one with child. ○ Model soft tone of voice and slow regular breathing. ○ Play calming music in the background during this activity. ○ Allow child to observe others ○ Invite child to carry out a role such as passing out paper plates, dividing clay for other students etc. 	 <p>LITERACY TIPS</p> <p><u>Oral Language</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ask open ended questions to encourage children to talk about times they have said goodbye. <p><u>Print Knowledge</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Stamp or write letters on the beads and create a name bracelet.
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