

Building Strong Foundations: The Relationship Map

Learning objective: To identify the qualities of healthy relationships and understand how to manage peer-to-peer social dynamics.

Max the monkey is helping his friends organise their 'Friendship Garden'. Look at the list of behaviours in the word bank. Sort them into two categories: 'Garden Builders' (actions that make a friendship grow) and 'Garden Weeds' (actions that can cause unhappiness or conflict). Write the behaviours in the correct columns on your map, then answer the questions to explore why these choices matter.

Word bank: Active listening · Always wanting your own way · Sharing equipment · Interrupting others · Telling the truth · Ignoring someone's feelings · Including others in games · Calling people unkind names · Saying sorry when wrong · Being bossy

1. Explain why 'Active listening' is considered a 'Garden Builder' rather than just being quiet. How does it change the way your friend feels? (2 marks)

2. Compare and contrast 'Being bossy' with 'Leading a game'. What is the difference in how they affect a group? (2 marks)

3. Justify your answer: Why is 'Saying sorry when wrong' more important for a friendship than never making a mistake at all? (2 marks)

4. What might happen if a friendship only contains 'Garden Builder' behaviours, but there is no honesty? Explain your reasoning. (2 marks)

5. If you notice a 'Garden Weed' behaviour occurring in your friendship group, what is the most respectful way to address it with your peers? (2 marks)

6. Imagine a scenario where two friends disagree on a rule for a game. Describe the steps they could take to resolve this fairly. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a 'Friendship Tree'. In the roots, draw the values that support a relationship (like trust or kindness). In the branches, draw the positive actions you take to help your friends grow and feel happy.



Extension challenge: Create a 'Relationship Contract' for your classroom. Write five golden rules that ensure everyone feels respected, valued, and included. Justify why each rule is essential for a positive learning environment.