

The Pillars of Friendship with Leo and Zara

Learning objective: To understand the qualities that build and maintain healthy, positive friendships, and how to resolve misunderstandings.

Leo the Lion and Zara the Zebra are building a 'Friendship Bridge'. To complete the bridge, you must sort the following behaviors into two categories: 'Bridge Builders' (positive actions that strengthen friendships) and 'Bridge Boulders' (negative actions that create barriers). Read each scenario and decide if it helps or hinders a friendship, then explain why in the space provided.

Word bank: Bridge Builder · Bridge Boulder · Empathy · Honesty · Trust · Excluding others · Active listening · Jealousy

1. Scenario 1: Your friend feels sad because they lost their favorite pencil. You sit with them and ask them how they are feeling, even though you wanted to go and play football. Is this a Bridge Builder or a Bridge Boulder? Why? (2 marks)

2. Scenario 2: You and your friend have a disagreement about which game to play. You refuse to listen to their idea and tell them that only your idea is correct. Is this a Bridge Builder or a Bridge Boulder? Why? (2 marks)

3. Scenario 3: A new student joins your class. You notice they are sitting alone at lunch, so you invite them to come and sit with you and your friends. Is this a Bridge Builder or a Bridge Boulder? Why? (2 marks)

4. Scenario 4: You accidentally break something belonging to your friend. Instead of hiding it, you tell them the truth and offer to help them fix it or replace it using your own pocket money. Is this a Bridge Builder or a Bridge Boulder? Why? (2 marks)

5. Scenario 5: If a friend asks you to do something that makes you feel uncomfortable or unhappy, what is the best way to handle the situation while still being a good friend? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a 'Friendship Bridge'. On the bricks that hold the bridge together, draw or write the qualities you think are most important for a healthy friendship (e.g., kindness, sharing, listening).



Extension challenge: Write a short poem, in the style of Leo the Lion, about a time you showed kindness to a friend. Include at least three 'Bridge Builder' qualities in your poem.