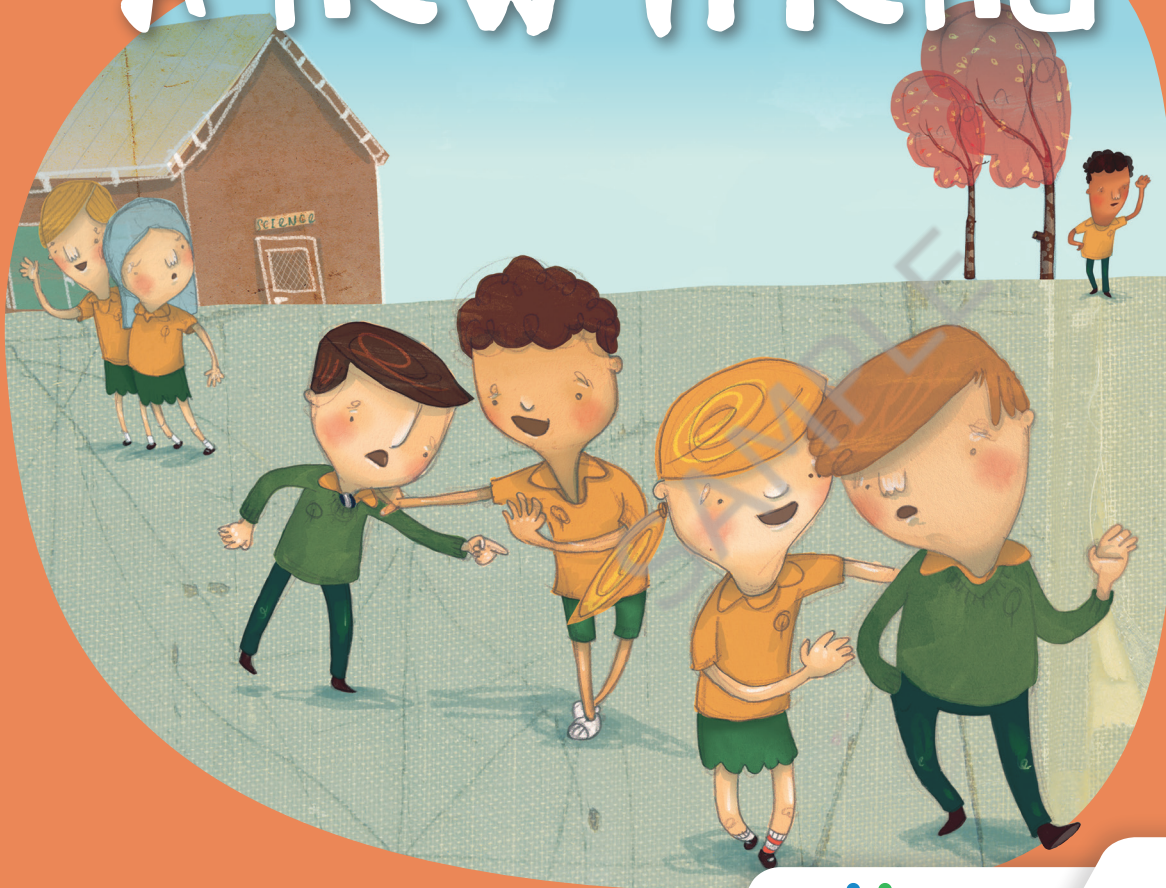


A new friend



Story by
Barbara Gonzalez

Illustrated by
Connah Brecon

Dr Kimberley O'Brien



Role play:

How to start a conversation

Two people: an opportunity to connect

Ingredients

COURAGE

Be prepared to challenge yourself. Try telling yourself: "I can do this!"

TIME

Be prepared to pause. This may take a moment.

ENTHUSIASM

Switch yourself on – smile and make eye contact.

LISTEN

They may in fact talk first!

TOPICS

Think of something to say.



Method

Step 1

Single out someone you find interesting.

Make your approach and stand beside them or close by.

Step 2

Be open, smile and make eye contact.

Say 'Hey', 'Hi' or 'How's it going?'

Pause and wait for an answer.

Step 3

Recall why you found this person interesting.

Ask a question or make a comment about a relevant topic.

E.g., At the library, talk about books.

At the pet shop, talk about pets.

Step 4

Relax!

The hard work is done. Now listen, make yourself comfortable and continue the conversation.

What might you say to someone new?

In the playground:

.....

.....

In the classroom:

.....

.....

At a team sport practice:

.....

.....

Role play:

Keep the conversation going

Read the scenarios that follow, and brainstorm ideas to keep the conversation going in the following role plays. Think about the ingredients and steps we demonstrated before.



You are at a party and you meet Sarah. After saying 'hi,' Sarah says she thinks she has seen you before at netball.

What could you say to keep the conversation going?

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Now try to role play this with your group.



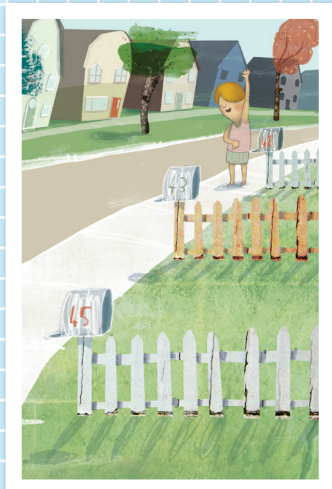
Your library is full of people, so you decide to sit beside a boy of about your age who you haven't met before. He smiles and moves his bag to make room for you and then says, "I can't believe how full the library is today!"

What could you say to keep the conversation going?

.....

.....

Now try to role play this with your group.



The empty house in your street has a truck unloading furniture out the front. You have new neighbours! A girl notices you and she waves her arm in the air. After you wave back, she calls out, "Come over!"

What could you say to keep the conversation going?

.....

.....

Now try to role play this with your group.

A new friend

A new boy Theo
joins the school.

Learn how to start a

conversation

and make a

new friend.

Meet the four friends who live on Quirky Lane and follow the stories of how they resolve conflict and strengthen their friendships.

Child psychologist, **Dr Kimberley O'Brien** teams up with children's author **Barbara Gonzalez** and talented illustrator **Connah Brecon** to create these inspiring childhood adventures and social skills stories.



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