

## Early Years Foundation Stage

### Unit title: **Aspects of Identity & Relationships: Ourselves**

#### **The Gotcha Smile: How do we make friends?**

Context	Key underlying ideas/concepts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Starting school can be a difficult time for children</li> <li>Adults give advice that sometimes doesn't quite match children's experiences</li> <li>Most people learn that how we behave to others is often mirrored or reflected back: this is the truth behind using a 'gotcha smile'</li> <li>Body language (such as a smile) affects other people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>New beginnings:</b> feeling lonely</li> <li><b>Friendship:</b> real and imposed</li> <li><b>Patience/perseverance:</b> eg trying different ways of getting along with others</li> <li><b>Identity</b> eg establishing your 'presence' within a group</li> </ul>
Links to Early Learning Goals	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communication, language and literacy: language for communication</li> <li>Personal, social and emotional, development, settling children into the setting</li> </ul>	
Main elements of the unit	Suggestions for practical activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Exploring children's own experiences of change and friendship</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Questions could include</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How did you feel when you first came to this class?</li> <li>Who did you tell?</li> <li>How did you make friends?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Telling the story</b> (Use the Story Sack)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Read the story and ask questions eg:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How did Clarine feel when she had no-one to play with?</li> <li>Why didn't the cherries or the ball help Clarine to make friends?</li> <li>What did help Clarine to make friends?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Exploring the 'smile' as an example of body language</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Activities could include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Circle Time focus: Passing the smile round the circle and asking 'How do you feel?'</li> <li>Painting or drawing pictures of themselves with a friend</li> <li>Make and display a list of rules for cooperative play</li> </ul>
Key questions to ask	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When have you felt lonely?</li> <li>Who is your friend, and why?</li> </ul>	
Story sack	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Gotcha Smile by Rita Phillips Mitchell, Orchard Books, ISBN 1-86039-951-7</li> <li>mirror : to look at smiles</li> <li>picture of cherries</li> <li>a ball</li> </ul>	