Wanted: Friend

Lesson Purpose: To help students identify the characteristics of a good friend and communicate them through an advertisement.

Potential Curricular Crossovers: Media Literacy, Language Arts

Lesson Introduction (10-15 minutes):

Teacher (to the entire class): Have you ever seen a "wanted" poster? (give students a few minutes to respond).

Ok, now I want you to discuss with your "elbow partner" (student sitting next to them) or one of your friends, what the "wanted" poster is advertising?

As well, I want you to talk about:

- Who do you think made this poster?
- Why do you think they made it?

Lesson Body (30-35 minutes):

Give students the worksheet below. Ask students to work in pairs or design the ad on their own.

Lesson Conclusion (5-10 minutes):

Place the posters and ads around the classroom. Get students to do a "gallery walk" (i.e., walking around and looking at each other's ads and posters). Come together and discuss with students:

- Did any of the posters or ads ask for similar things?
- Which quality did your classmates ask for that you did not think of?
- How can you meet the requirements that some of your classmates set out?



Extension Activity: Responding to your classmate's ad's (40-45 minutes)

Get students to respond in a letter format or in paragraphs why they would be a good fit for their classmates "wanted" ad. Encourage your students to provide examples of how they fit the qualities their classmates are seeking out. For example:

Dear:

I believe I will be a good match for your ad because I am very kind. I have a little brother and I often share my toys with him.

Get your students to package their letters in envelopes and "send" them to each other so they can read them.

Wanted: Friend Worksheet

Complete the table below before starting your poster. Think about some things that a good friend does and some ways that a good friend acts.

A good friend does:

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Now, create a poster that communicates what you want your next friend to be like. Draw a picture in the space below and list the qualities you are looking for. Remember, be creative. Good luck!

Gabriella Lancia, PhD

