



Grade 1 Newsletter – Our First Unit of Inquiry

Our Relationships

ORGANIZING THEME: Who We Are

DESCRIPTION: An inquiry into the nature of self; beliefs and values; personal, physical, mental, social and spiritual health; human relationships including families, friends, communities and cultures; rights and responsibilities; what it means to be human.

This unit launches our Grade One year with an exploration into the relationships that your daughters have with their families, friends, peers, and other important people in their lives. By beginning the year with activities and conversations about what it means to be in a relationship with someone else, and the importance of treating others respectfully and fairly, we aim to create a positive classroom environment that will allow everyone to have a wonderful year full of social, emotional and academic growth.

SUBJECT FOCUS: This unit is linked to the Ontario Curriculum Social Studies expectations on *Relationships, Rules and Responsibilities*.

CENTRAL IDEA: People have different responsibilities in their relationships.

INQUIRY INTO:

- Different relationships
- Rules and responsibilities of relationships
- How relationships change

SUGGESTIONS FOR ACTIVITIES AT HOME THAT WILL SUPPORT OUR UNIT:

- Look through photo albums and talk about family members and other people who play a special role in your life, helping familiarize your daughter with terms like aunts, uncles, grandparents, cousins, etc.
- Discuss different family members' responsibilities in the home. Are there any small activities (e.g. setting the table or making the bed) that your child might be ready to take on?
- Encourage your daughter to become more responsible for her own materials and items by allowing her to pack her school bag and having her assist packing healthy snacks and lunches for school.
- Help your child work through conflicts with siblings and her friends by encouraging her to think about using caring words, thinking before she speaks, and being open-minded about someone else's points of view. Encourage her to try compromise as a means of solving a problem.