

# Friends Club



Friends for  
Life

## Additional Project Ideas

**Famous friends.** Help the girls choose famous fictional friends (from a movie, TV show, or book). Let the girls talk about whether or not the friends are "good" friends. Does their relationship reflect the principles of a godly friendship? If the friends are ever in conflict, how do they handle it? Let the girls present what they've found to the group.

**Meet new people.** Each week, choose a different criterion to pair up the girls (birthday month, eye color, favorite kind of pizza, etc.). Try to encourage girls who are not normally friends to pair up. Allow extra time each week for the girls to spend getting to know each other. Have the girls commit to pray for their "new friend" during the week. At the end of the unit, ask each girl to write a short report or journal entry to you about what they learned getting to know other girls.

**Say thank you.** Have each girl think of an authority figure who has had a positive influence in her life. Provide the girls with stationery and have each girl write a note to the authority figure thanking them for the positive influence they've had in her life.

**Read about it.** Read the book *Mean Girls* or *Mean Girls Gone* by Hayley DiMarco as a club. These books are easy to read and have a fun layout. Leader guides and discussion starters are also available.

**Write a letter.** Pair up the girls. Have each set of girls pray together before writing. The letter should begin "Dear (name)." Let the girls know that you're putting 15 minutes on the clock and they should write for the entire 15 minutes. Talking or laughing with anyone other than their partners won't be tolerated during this activity. Have the girls write about two things that they appreciate about their partner and one area where their partner could improve. Instruct the girls on giving constructive criticism before the activity begins. If the girls run out of things to say about their partner, encourage the girls to ask questions of the other person or write about themselves. Have the girls exchange letters and talk about what they've written. After the girls have shared with each other, encourage them to discuss what they learned and how they felt with the group. Encourage the girls to pray for their partner throughout the Friends For Life unit.

**Picture it.** Make picture frames. Simple wooden frames are available from craft stores relatively inexpensively. Take a picture as a club and make enough copies for each girl to have a picture. Have the girls place the club picture in their decorated frames.

# Resource Ideas

- *Secret Keeper Girl Kit 2: The Gift of True Friendship* by Dannah Gresh, Moody, 2008.
- *Mean Girls, Revised and Updated* by Hayley DiMarco, Revell, 2008.
- *Mean Girls Gone: A Spiritual Guide to Getting Rid of Mean* by Hayley DiMarco, Baker, 2005.
- *Soul Sister, Connect: The Lowdown on Friendships and Relationships* by Kendall Payne, Gospel Light 2005.

# Additional Discussion Questions

## Discovery #1

- Think of a person you look up to and admire. What are some of the qualities they possess? Are any of these qualities you look for in friends?
- What are some of the differences between friends you had in elementary school and some of the friends you have now?
- Can you think of a time a friend has stood behind you?

## Discovery #2

- What should you do if you have trouble making friends?
- What can you do to help your friends feel important?
- How can you balance spending time with friends and doing other things (spending time with the Lord, spending time with family, doing homework, taking care of your chores, etc.)?

## Discovery #3

- Is it OK to have friends that aren't Christians?
- Does it matter what your parents think about your friends?
- How can having Christian friends help you in your relationship with the Lord?

## Discovery #4

- How can you encourage your friends?
- What is the best way to tell your friends about Jesus?
- What can you do to help yourself stand firm even if your friends don't?

## Discovery #5

- Is it important to mend broken friendships? Why?
- Is conflict bad?
- Why is it so hard to take the first step in mending broken relationships?

## Discovery #6

- How do your own friendships help you understand what friendship with God is like?
- Why did God give us friends?
- What is friendship with God like? How do you know you have a friendship with God?