

# THE FRIEND SHIP FRIENDESHA

## Parent and Teacher Reading Guide

Questions about the story:

- Which character in the story do you think learned and changed the most?
- Would you rather be a Friendeshan, or an Oily Spoily?
- Do you think our world looks more like Planet Friendesha, or like Planet Oily Spoily?
- Do you know the names of any other planets in outer space?
- Do you think that there really are other beings from other planets?
- What funny feature do all of the animals on the Planet Og have in common?
- The Friendeshans have fun pozzi-nicknames. Can you think of a pozzi-nickname for you? Can you think of one for someone else in the class?
- Can you think of a time when you felt like an Oily Spoily squirted you?

Remember: Don't let the discussion turn to name-calling or finger pointing! If children have grievances with one another, or serious family concerns, ask them to speak with you after the class discussion.



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## Science Time

Environmental themes run throughout the story. Talk to kids about how they should take care of our planet, and things they can do to make it more like planet Friendesha and less like planet Oily Spoily.

Experiment!

Supplies:

- Two small house plants
- One Cardboard box
- Water
- Aerosol Lubricant
- Window

Talk to your children about what makes a plant grow healthy. Ask them about how the Oily Spoilies squirting oil on everything would affect the living things. Does oil make plants happy or sad? Ask them what they think will happen to two plants if you give one water and sunlight, and give the other one aerosol lubricant and put it in a dark box.

Find out by experimenting!

Get children to think more abstractly by comparing spraying oil on a plant to calling someone a mean name. Then compare giving the plant sun and water to complimenting someone.



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## Talking Points for Parents

If your kids are already talking about the Friend Ship Friendesha at school, continue the conversation with them at home.

The book gives children new ways to think and talk about social problems at school like bullies, problem students, or even teachers that may cause undue stress and tension.

After reading the story again, together, ask some questions.

- Is there anyone at school that reminds you of an Oily Spoily?
- Have you ever felt like an Oily Spoily squirted you?
- Is there anyone at school that makes you feel mad, bad, or sad?
- What do you think you should do to someone who acts like an Oily Spoily?
- What are some reasons that someone might be acting that way?

Use the conversation as a way to get your child to feel comfortable talking about his or her problems with you. Gauge the level of distress being caused by classmates, and take action if need be, but remember: the Friendshans are all about giving children healthy, respectful, and positive ways to deal with negativity in their lives. Empower them to fight negative energy with positive energy!



# THE FRIEND SHIP

# FRIENDESHA

Give someone a Friendesha!

What is a Friendesha?

The gift of offering your time and attention to another person you care about, respect, like love, or wish to make peace with. The only “rules” of Friendesha are that you must reach out to this person three times within a two-week period, and make a sincere effort to listen and help; to create positive energy between you. When you offer Friendesha to others, you talk about them; what can you do to make them smile or laugh or think. You open a dialogue about them. Most of all, you listen, with no agenda. There is nothing material exchanged; it’s free from one person to another. Friendesha has no monetary value. The only “price” you pay is the effort it takes to talk about them three times. The effort is the gift - and you expect nothing in return - except, hopefully, peace between two parties and positive energy.

