

Role play the events which take place in this story. Take turns role-playing the characters.

Mr. Munson's Itvice

Mr. Munson is the guidance counselor at PicklePond Elementary School.

Each morning, he stands at the front door of the school and greets everyone in a friendly way. "Hello, Ellie". "Hello, Mr. Munson". "Marvelous morning, Ned". "Marvelous morning, Mr. Munson". "Terrific Tuesday, girls". "Terrific Tuesday, Mr. Munson"

Mr. Munson visits classrooms each week and talks with children about the things that are interesting to them. He discusses things like friendship and how kids can get along with each other.

His office is a friendly place where children can stop by if they want to talk about a problem. If Mr. Munson is not in his office, the boys and girls can leave a note for him, using the special counselor notepad and pencil.

Recess is that time of the day when all the children have fun with their friends. All the children that is except Ellie. Ellie walks around the playground looking sad because no one has asked her to play. No one looks friendly. No one even notices her. (show anxious body language)

One day, Mr. Munson finds a note on his desk. It says "Dear Mr. Munson, I need some advice. From, Ellie."

Mr. Munson invites Ellie into his office, and this is what she says:

"I'm having a problem with friends. Kids don't want to play with me, and I don't think they like me. Can you help me, Mr. Munson?"

"There's a secret to friendship, Ellie", says Mr. Munson. "It's kind of easy, and it's kind of hard. To have friends, first, you have to be the kind of person that others like to be around. That means you smile at others.

You ask kids questions about themselves. You share. You take turns. You offer to help. You ask others to join your games".

"What if I'm not good at being a friend, Mr. Munson? What if I just can't make friends? What if I say the wrong words?"

“Everyone can become a friend, Ellie. You just have to practice, and then take it one step at a time.” “One step at a time; what do you mean, Mr. Munson?”

“First, you smile and say “hi” to people. After you say “hi”, introduce yourself by telling the kids your name. Don’t forget to ask their name, too”.

Then show an interest in others by asking some questions.

The next step might be to ask if you could join their games, or you could ask if they would like to join you in a game.

There’s one more thing to remember about friendship, Ellie, and this is the real secret.

Be the friend you want to have. Friendship must start with you”

Ellie thinks about Mr. Munson’s words and decides to try his advice. At recess that day, she gives some kids a friendly smile, and she notices that they all smile back at her.

When she sees those smiles, it feels okay to say “hi” and introduce herself. As she walks and skips around the playground, Ellie learns the names of many new kids.

She decides to ask some kids a few questions about themselves. "What do you think of that Math test we took this morning?"

"What rope-jumping songs do you know?"

"Are you playing 'Four-Square'? How do you play to this game?" "What color do you get when you mix yellow and red?"

"That's a nice jacket you're wearing. How does all that glittery stuff stay on it?" "Would you like to take a turn riding my bike?" "What if we both go down the slide together?" "You must be the new student. Hi, my name is Ellie. What's your name?"

Ellie has lots of fun at recess today. She even makes plans to play with some of these kids tomorrow. It is hard work, but each day, it gets easier to talk to other kids. Each day, recess becomes more fun, and each day Ellie learns a little more about friendship.

"That's what Mr. Munson means about taking it one step at a time."

After a few days of making new friends, Ellie writes another note to Mr. Munson. This is what it says:

"Dear Mr. Munson, Thank you for the advice. It worked! from, Ellie

Mr. Munson's Friendship Advice:

1. Smile at others and say, "hi"
2. Ask their name; tell them your name
3. Show an interest in others by asking questions
4. Listen
5. Share
6. Be kind
7. Take it one step at a time
8. Be the friend you want to have

Here are some questions you could ask:

1. What's your name?
2. Where do you live?
3. What video games do you like to play?
4. What kind of pet do you have?
5. What's your favorite subject in school?
6. Who is your teacher this year?
7. Did you have the school lunch today?
8. Would you like to play a game?
9. Do you have a favorite book or author?
10. Would you like to be friends?

11. _____ *

12. _____ *

13. _____ *

14. _____ *

15.. _____ *

Think up some of your own questions to ask

