

A new friend



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ISBN: 9781510481657

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First published in 2016 as The Best of Friends™ © Quirky Kid

Concept by Dr Kimberley O'Brien

Illustrations by Connah Brecon © Quirky Kid 2020

Story by Barbara Gonzalez © Quirky Kid 2020

Art direction by Leonardo Rocker

Graphic design by Lisa Diebold

This edition designed and typeset by Gary Kilpatrick

Printed in India

This edition published in 2020 by
Hodder Education,
An Hachette UK Company
Carmelite House
50 Victoria Embankment
London EC4Y 0DZ
www.hoddereducation.com

Impression number 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Year 2024 2023 2022 2021 2020

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A catalogue record for this title is available from the British Library.



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Activities by
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Welcome to PYP Friends!

Meet the four friends who live on

Quirky Lane

and follow the stories of how they

resolve conflict and strengthen their friendships

in the school playground and local neighbourhood.



This is the story of what happened when a
new person arrived on Quirky Lane.

That's the street where ...



The day started like any other and the kids on Quirky Lane were getting ready for school. Salma lived at the bottom of the lane and, as she made her way down to Coco's place, she heard a familiar noise.

"Woof woof!"

Coco's dogs were at it again. "Flip! Come back here!" she heard Coco's mum calling, as usual. "Flop! Come back! Leave Salma alone!" But Salma didn't mind. She loved Flip and Flop, even though they left her face wet with dog kisses every morning. "Is Coco ready?" asked Salma.

But before Coco's mum could answer, Salma heard her friend coming down the hall.

"I'm ready!"

called Coco.

"Hi Salma, bye Mum!" and the two friends squeezed past the dogs and out of the gate, making their way down the lane. Next stop, Rafi's place.

On the way, Coco was telling Salma every detail of what had happened the night before on their favourite TV show, *Nutty Knockout Bonanza*. Salma was listening carefully when suddenly, a voice interrupted her.

“Hey!

Guess what I’ve got?”

The girls looked to see.

It was their friend Rafi. He was standing outside his house waving his hands around in the air. The two girls looked at each other. They were thinking the same thing.

What was he

so excited about?

“Look! Look! It’s the latest Goannas card set,” cried Rafi as he ran to meet them, tripping over his own feet with excitement!

“What’s that?” asked Salma.

“The Goannas team set! You know, 12 new cards to add to my album. It’s the best.”

“Oh,” said the two girls, not quite as excited as Rafi.

They continued on their way, but just as Coco opened her mouth to speak to Salma again ...

“Hey Rafi!”

This time it was their friend Lochie. He was standing by the front gate of his house waiting for everyone.

“Did you get the new set?” he asked.





"Yep, 12 new cards," replied Rafi.

"Can I see?"

Lochie loved collecting footy cards too and he couldn't wait to see Rafi's new set.

So it seemed like just another morning on Quirky Lane as Salma, Coco, Rafi and Lochie made their way to school.

"Hiya!" called Coco, interrupting herself.

The others

turned to see.

Lochie counted in his head.

One, two, three, four. Yes, all his friends from Quirky Lane were there, walking to school as usual ...

So who was Coco saying hello to?

“Hi,” said a new voice.

It was a boy, about their age, wearing the same school uniform. But none of the Quirky Lane kids had seen him before.

“Are you walking to school?” asked Coco,

wide-eyed

and smiling

from ear to ear.

She really loved making new friends.

“We walk to school together every day,” she told the new boy.

“Do you want to

walk with us too?”

The new boy was a little bit surprised and for a moment, he didn’t say anything.

After all, he’d never seen any of the kids on Quirky Lane before, so he wasn’t sure what to say. So he just said, “Um, okay,” rather quietly.

And just like that, he was on his way to school with the rest of the kids on Quirky Lane.

Arriving at school, Coco realized that she had forgotten to introduce herself and everyone else to the new boy.

“By the way, I’m Coco and this is Salma, and over there are Lochie and Rafi.”

“Hi,” replied the boy with a small wave of his hand, “I’m ...” — but before he could finish,

Coco interrupted ...

“When did you move here? Do you like it? Have you got any pets? I really wish I had a rabbit but my Mum says our yard is too small for a rabbit and two dogs. I had a fish once, but it died and Mum said we should wait till ...”

Coco could have

talked for **hours,**

but luckily there was another interruption.





This time it was Lochie.

“Hey Coco!

Who’s our new friend?”

“Oh, this is ...”

“Was Coco **talking your ears off?**” interrupted Lochie.

“Don’t worry, she does that sometimes. You’ll get used to it.”

“So, do you collect footy cards?” continued Lochie, hoping he’d have someone else to swap cards with.

But just before he got an answer, Rafi jumped in.

“What are you

asking **him** for?”

He probably doesn’t even know the Goannas!”

Lochie paused for a moment. “Never mind,” he said to the new boy, “I’ll ask you later.”

With that, the bell rang and the kids made their way to their classrooms to start the day.

Later that day, during lunch break, Coco noticed that their new friend was on his own. She remembered what it had been like on her first day at a new school, and decided to go and say hi.

**“Hey, how
are you going?”**

The soccer pitch is free.

**Do you want to
come and play?”**

“Um, I’m not very good at soccer,” answered the boy.

“No worries, everyone starts somewhere. Come on, let’s go.”

“Okay,” replied the boy.





A while later, Rafi came over to where Coco and the new friend were playing soccer.

“Hey Coco! What are you playing with him for? He can’t even kick the ball!”

“It’s alright, he’s getting the hang of it,” replied Coco and they continued playing.

Suddenly, Rafi stormed over to the new boy, snatched the ball and kicked it to Coco. But Coco didn’t kick the ball back.

Her ears turned bright red as she walked over to Rafi.

“Rafi,

that’s not fair!”

We were playing first,” she cried.

“Too bad, I’m playing now,” replied Rafi. Nobody said anything for a moment as none of them was sure what to do next.

Coco **frowned** and scratched her head. She wanted everyone to be friends, but Rafi wasn't making it easy.

Just then, the new friend had a brilliant idea.

"I know! How about we find another player and then we can play two against two?"
Coco jumped with excitement.

"Yes!"

That's an excellent idea!"

Rafi nodded and seemed to like the idea too. So they found Lochie and the four of them played a great game of soccer.

The bell rang and Rafi and the new boy were walking back to class.

"Guess what?"

said Rafi.

"What?" replied the boy.

"You're not as bad at soccer as I thought."

"Thanks. By the way, my name's Theodore, but everyone calls me Theo."

"I'm Rafi, but everyone calls me Rafi."

The two boys laughed.



“Rafi, do you want to come over to my place this afternoon?” asked Theo.

“Sounds great! I’ll check with my Dad, but it should be okay. Can Lochie come too?”

“Yep, for sure. I think I’ve got something you’d both love to see.”

That afternoon, Rafi couldn’t believe his luck. He discovered that his new friend actually had one of the best Goannas collections he’d ever seen.



After that day, Salma, Coco, Lochie and Rafi always stopped by Theo’s place in the mornings. Now, one, two, three, four, five kids on Quirky Lane walked and talked together on their way to school every day.





Role play:

How to start a conversation

Two people: an opportunity to connect

Ingredients



COURAGE

Be prepared to challenge yourself. Try telling yourself: "I can do this!"

TIME

Be prepared to pause. This may take a moment.

ENTHUSIASM

Switch yourself on – smile and make eye contact.

LISTEN

They may in fact talk first!

TOPICS

Think of something to say.



Method

Step 1

Single out someone you find interesting.

Make your approach and stand beside them or close by.

Step 2

Be open, smile and make eye contact.

Say 'Hey', 'Hi' or 'How's it going?'

Pause and wait for an answer.

Step 3

Recall why you found this person interesting.

Ask a question or make a comment about a relevant topic.

E.g., At the library, talk about books.
At the pet shop, talk about pets.

Step 4

Relax!

The hard work is done. Now listen, make yourself comfortable and continue the conversation.

What might you say to someone new?

In the playground:

.....

.....

In the classroom:.....

.....

.....

At a team sport practice:.....

.....

.....

Role play:

Keep the conversation going

Read the scenarios that follow, and brainstorm ideas to keep the conversation going in the following role plays. Think about the ingredients and steps we demonstrated before.



You are at a party and you meet Sarah. After saying 'hi,' Sarah says she thinks she has seen you before at netball.

What could you say to keep the conversation going?

.....

.....

.....

.....

Now try to role play this with your group.



Your library is full of people, so you decide to sit beside a boy of about your age who you haven't met before. He smiles and moves his bag to make room for you and then says, "I can't believe how full the library is today!"

What could you say to keep the conversation going?

.....
.....

Now try to role play this with your group.



The empty house in your street has a truck unloading furniture out the front. You have new neighbours! A girl notices you and she waves her arm in the air. After you wave back, she calls out, "Come over!"

What could you say to keep the conversation going?

.....
.....

Now try to role play this with your group.

Glossary

Talking your ears off (page 11)

To talk a lot without stopping or letting other people speak. To be very talkative.

Frown (page 16)

A facial expression or look characterized by a furrowing of one's brows. It can mean you are sad, angry, disapproving of something, etc.