

Highlights



Hidden Pictures  
Puzzles!  
Songs!  
Crafts!

# HIGHLIGHTS: DO GREAT THINGS EVENT!

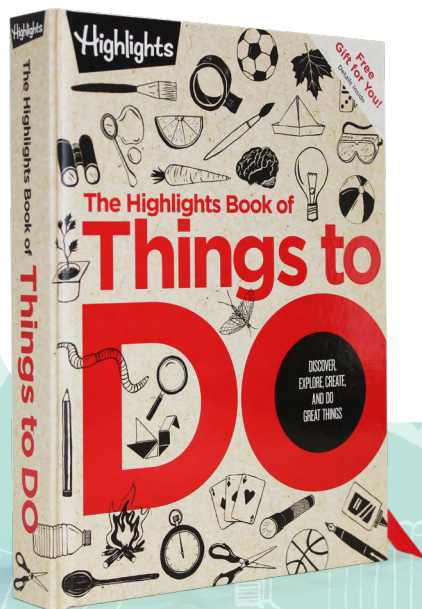
## Make, Create, Discover, and Do

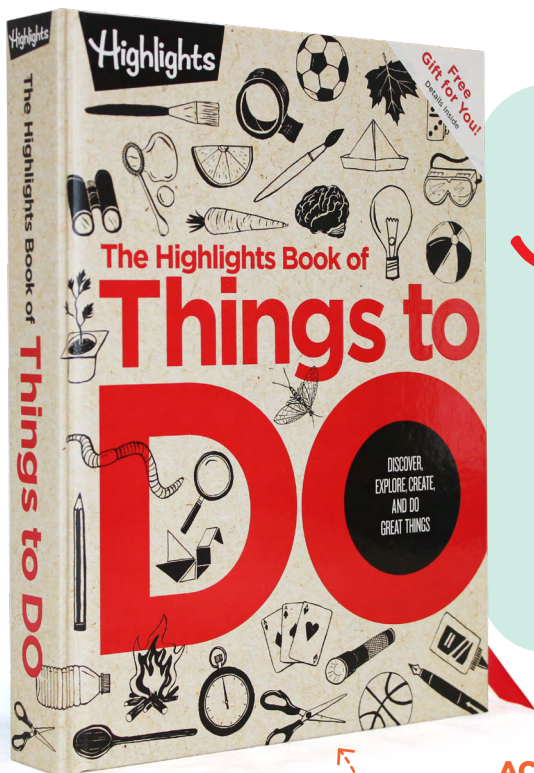
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on

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## The Highlights Book of Things to Do

takes DIY to the next level with over 530 activities that can help kids grow intellectually, socially, and emotionally. Includes open-ended questions and challenges that invite kids to think beyond an anticipated result.

## You Need

Supplies needed are easy-to-find everyday items, including:

- Paper
- Cardstock
- Stapler
- Markers
- Scissors
- Tape
- Glue
- Recycled paper

\*see individual activity for the full list of materials needed

# Host a Highlights DO GREAT THINGS event in your store!

Drive traffic in-store and to your website by hosting an in-person or virtual “Do Great Things” event. Use the activities provided to plan one big event or to host a series of events over several weeks.

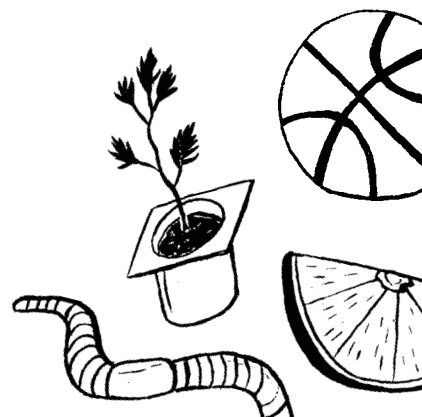
### ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Rewrite a song sing-along
- Learn to Whistle Loud and Strong group activity
- Hidden Pictures Puzzle
- Make your own book craft
- Create a mask craft
- Write positive sidewalk sayings
- Paint kindness rocks
- How to be a good friend

You'll find more themed event kits at <https://www.highlightspress.com/hp/downloadable-activities>

### HANDOUTS TO PRINT OR SEND DIGITALLY

- Rewrite a song sing-along
- “Hungry Dog” song download
- Learn to Whistle Loud and Strong
- Hidden Pictures Puzzle
- Make Your Own Book Craft
- Create a Mask Craft
- Event announcement flyer



# How to host your **HIGHLIGHTS: DO GREAT THINGS** event

Host your event in this order, or mix and match to extend the event over a series of weeks.

## Discover

### Rewrite a Song - Sing-along (page 4)

Warm up the crowd with a sing-along to a hungry dog's version of "Itsy Bitsy Spider." Lead the sing-along by playing the audio file, or just start singing! See page 4 for a complete set of lyrics to hand out and ideas to extend the activity. You can download the audio [here](#).

### Learn to Whistle Loud and Strong (page 5)

Learning how to whistle loudly is another icebreaker. Gather the children in a circle. Have someone lead the kids through the activity and see how many different whistle noises each kid can make. See page 5 for the step-by-step guide to distribute and ideas to extend the activity.

## Explore

### Solve a Hidden Pictures Puzzle (pages 6-7)

It wouldn't be a Highlights event without a Hidden Pictures puzzle! Using the Hidden Pictures handout on page 6, help your group find all 26 hidden objects. Page 7 is the answer key.

## Create

### Make Your Own Mini-Book (page 8)

Set out supplies and distribute copies of page 8. Lead the kids step-by-step to create a book filled with their own art and stories. *Tip: You can display the finished books together on a shelf in the store along with the The Highlights Book of Things to Do.*

### Create a Mask (pages 9-10)

Set out supplies and distribute copies of page 9. Using materials from the store's recycling bin, have the kids create a mask. Page 10 has tips for working with cardboard and other materials.



## Do Great Things

### Write Sidewalk Sayings (page 11)

Set out chalk and distribute copies of page 11. Have the kids write positive messages on the sidewalk or in the parking lot where customers can see them. *Tip: Let the kids keep the chalk to take home so they continue to spread positive messages in their own neighborhood. Encourage them to take pictures and post to your social media.*

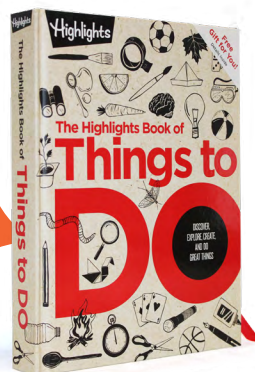
### Paint Kindness Rocks (page 12)

A great way to spread kindness is to surprise others with rocks painted with kindness messages. See page 12 for a step-by-step guide. Encourage kids to take pictures of where they placed the rock and create a kindness wall in the store.

### How to Be a Good Friend (page 13)

In order for kids to be their best selves, it's important to learn how to be a good friend. Gather the children in a circle. Use page 13 as a guide to open up a dialogue about what it means to be a good friend. Tips are included under each question that will help you guide the conversation.

Take pictures of your event and post to social media using the hashtag **#MyHighlightsKid**



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7 ½ X 10 • 9781684376421  
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## Rewrite a Song Sing-Along

Can you write new lyrics for a song from an unusual point of view? Use the lyrics below to sing along to a hungry dog's version of "Itsy Bitsy Spider."



I'm a hungry little puppy  
Just sitting on the floor.  
You're at the dinner table,  
Eating more and more.

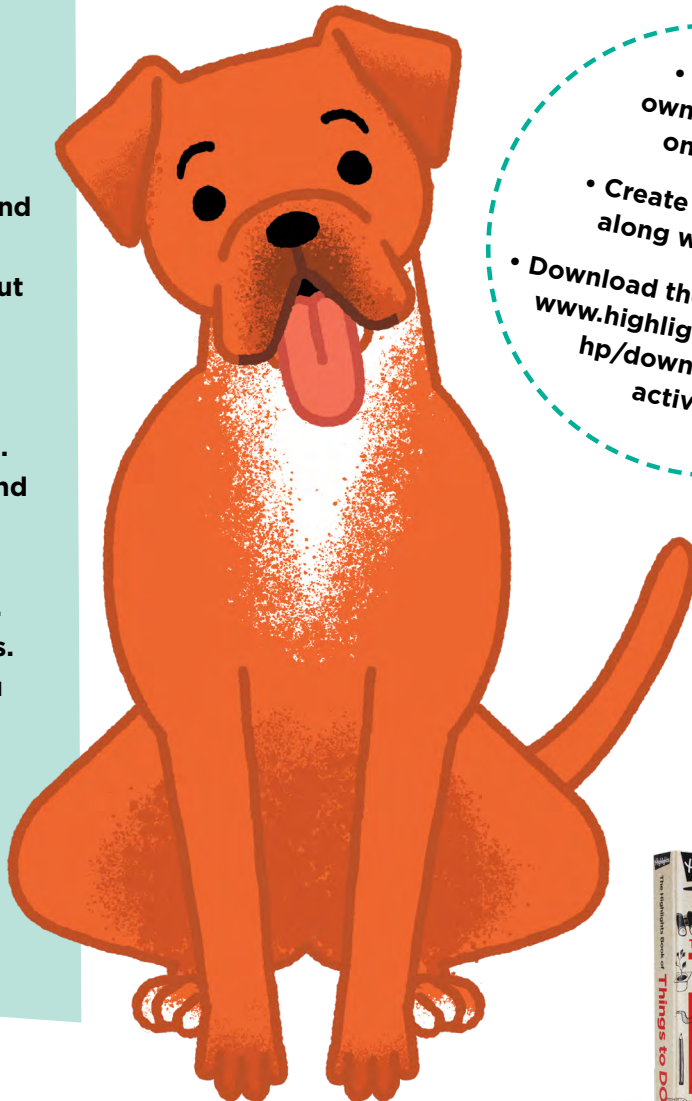
It smells so delicious.  
Would you share with me?  
I promise to tell no one.  
Please say you will agree.

My tongue is hanging out and  
I'm begging, family, please.  
I'd really like some steak, but  
will settle for some peas.

My paws are in the air, see?  
I'm begging—proud I'm not.  
I'll show you all my tricks and  
Everything you've taught.

Your dinner, it is done, now.  
The kids are washing dishes.  
Perhaps, instead of me, you  
Should have gotten fishes!

I shuffle to my bowl, and  
What is this I see?  
Steak and potatoes  
Are waiting here for me!



- Write your own song based on this tune
- Create a dance to go along with the song
- Download the song at <https://www.highlightspress.com/hp/downloadable-activities>



Find this activity and more in  
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## Learn to Whistle Loud and Strong

Use to get someone's attention or to make your voice heard.

Who can whistle the loudest? Who has the funniest whistle?



**1.** Wash your hands well.



**2.** Make an upside-down V with your index or pinkie fingers.



**3.** Put the two fingers that form the V in your mouth so that the point of the V is under the tip of your tongue.



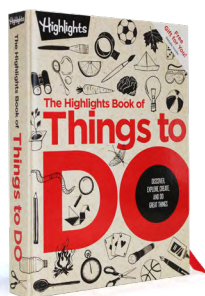
**4.** Push your fingers back a bit so that your tongue curls backward.



**5.** Close your lips around your fingers. This allows air to pass only through the small triangular hole between your fingers.



**6.** Blow!



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If you are having trouble, practice in front of a mirror or smartphone camera.

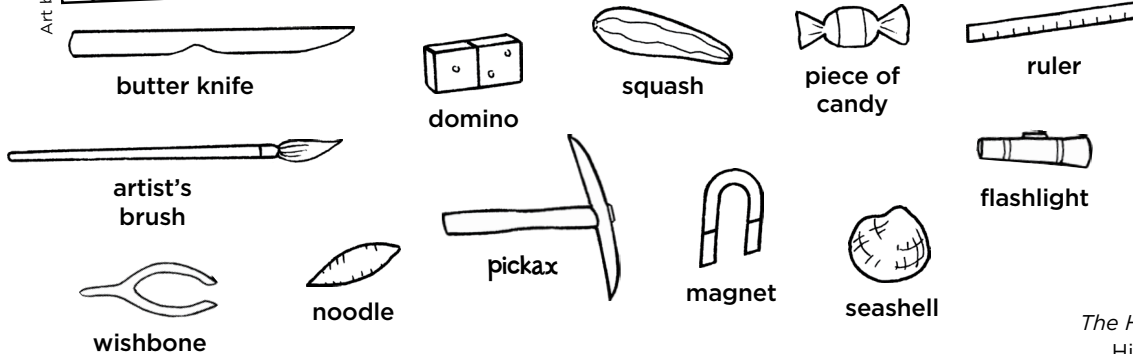
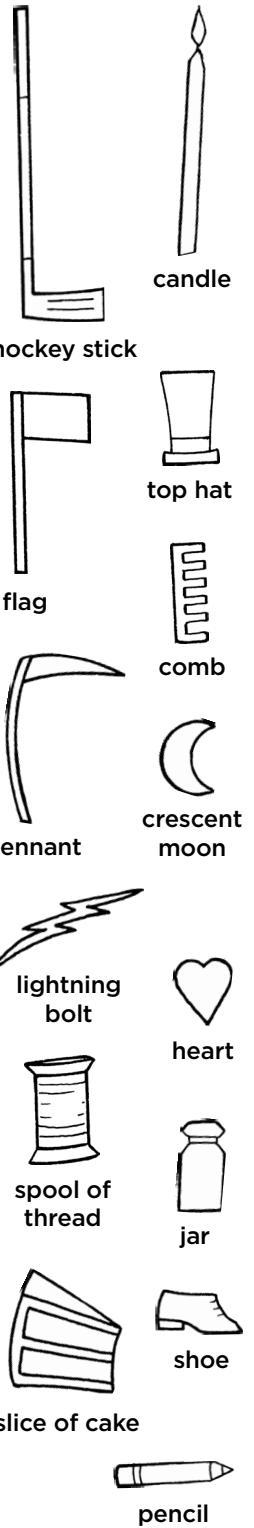
### Tip

You can blow hard or soft. It doesn't really matter. Just move your fingers around and keep blowing until you find the right spot. Some people practice for several days before they get the hang of it. Don't give up!

## Can you find these 26 hidden objects?



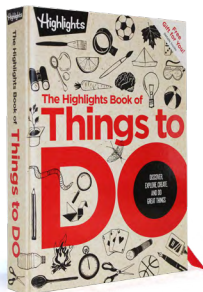
Art by Gary Mohrman



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## Answer Key



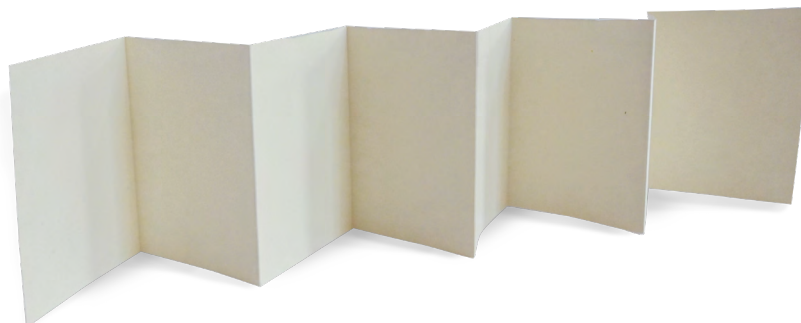
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## Make Your Own Mini-Book

Fill it with your own art or stories. We all have a story. What's yours?

### You Need

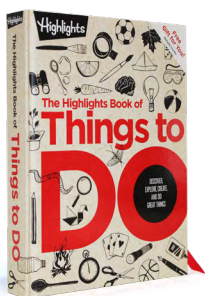
- Blank paper
- Scissors
- Tape
- Markers
- Used gift cards, thin cardboard, or cardstock



**1.** Cut two 3-by-11-inch strips of paper. Overlap the strips and tape them together to make one long strip.

**2.** Accordion-fold the taped strip into two-inch sections. Trim off any extra paper.

**3.** If you want book covers, cut two two-by-three-inch pieces of the gift cards or other heavier paper and decorate. Tape one end of the strip to the back of each cover.



### Book Ideas:

- What great things did you do this week?
- What great things do you want to do in the future?
- What dreams do you have?
- Do you have a funny story to tell?

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## Create a Unique and Surprising Mask

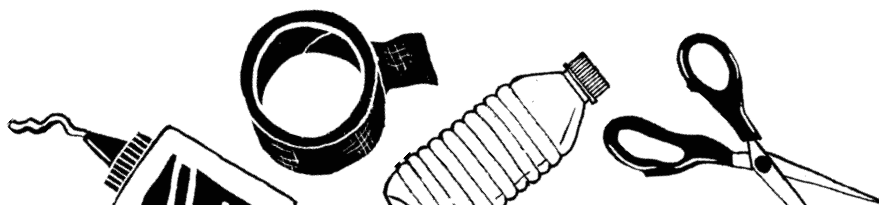
Raid the recycling bin to make a one-of-a-kind mask.

### You Need

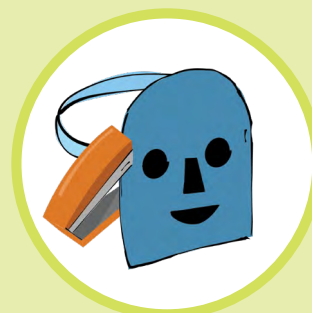
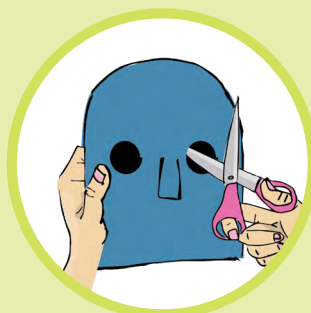
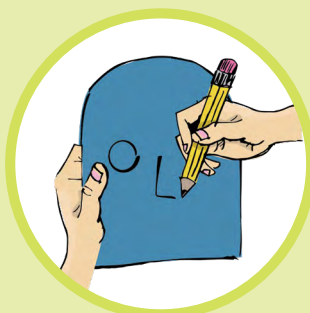
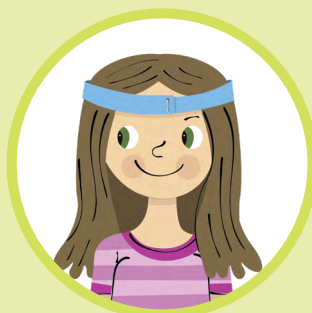
- Recyclable materials, such as cardboard, cereal boxes, egg or berry cartons, and cardboard tubes
- Scissors
- Glue
- Markers/crayons
- Stapler
- Masking tape

**1.** Decide what kind of creature you want to make. For inspiration, think about your favorite creatures, and what unique features they have.

**2.** Create a base for your mask. Ask the host, a friend, or family member for help with making your base. Step 3 instructs you on how to make the base.



**3. BASE:** Cut strips of cardboard about two inches wide. Staple them together to make a strip long enough to go around your head. Then wrap it around your head and have your helper mark where it should be cut and then stapled. Cut another piece of cardboard that's the size of your face. Have your helper hold it in front of your face and mark where your eyes and nose are. Cut out the eye holes and a hole or flap for your nose. Staple the face to the circle of cardboard.



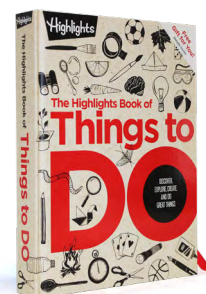
**4.** Add features such as eyes, ears, a nose, a mouth, a trunk, horns, or even wings! See page 10 for TIPS FOR WORKING WITH CARDBOARD AND OTHER MATERIALS. Use tape, staples, or glue to attach the features. Make sure the features are all attached securely. Tape over any staples so they don't poke you. Ask an adult for help with anything sharp.

**5.** Color the mask with markers or crayons.

**6.** Wear your mask and have a good time!

### Activity Extensions:

- What's the name of your creature?
- Does your creature have its own language?
- What sounds does it make?



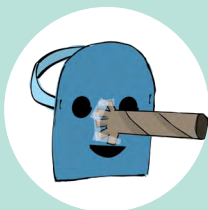
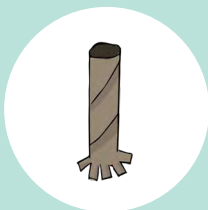
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Print this page and hang where the kids can see it or use as a handout

## Tips for Working with Cardboard and Other Materials

### JOIN SHAPES

Cut flaps on the edge of the shape you want to add. Bend the flaps, then tape them down to add the shape.



### MAKE CURVES

Cut a slit in the cardboard. Overlap the edges to make a curve. Staple or tape the edges in place.



### ADD DETAILS

**Hair or Fur:** Make fringe along the long edge of a strip of paper.



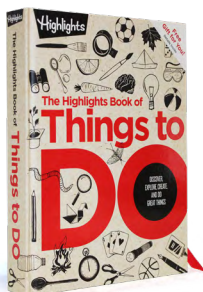
**Whiskers:** Use straws or twisted strips of paper.



**Nose:** Use a bottle cap or the bottom part of a plastic bottle.



**Texture:** Use masking tape to create bumps and ridges and then paint over the tape.



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## Write Positive Sidewalk Sayings

Spread encouragement and brighten someone's day by leaving positive messages on a sidewalk, parking lot, or driveway.

### You Need

- Sidewalk chalk
- A parking lot or sidewalk
- Permission to decorate

Your messages can be written with fancy or plain letters, and decorated with swirls, lightning bolts, hearts, or anything you'd like. Grab some chalk and use one of these ideas to inspire you.

**POSITIVE MESSAGE:** Think of a message that will make people smile. You could share some advice, like: *Spread happiness. Be kind to everyone!* or *Always look on the bright side!* or *Make this day your best one yet!*

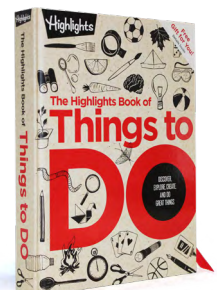
**FUNNY MESSAGE:** Write or draw something unexpected in someone's path, like *Nice shoes!* Or write *Warning: Snake!* Then draw a snake.

**ENCOURAGING MESSAGE:** Write a sentence to boost your readers' spirits, like *You can do it!* Your message could also make readers feel good about themselves, like *You're stronger than you think.* and *You are AWESOME!*

**COLORFUL ART:** You can also make people smile with just a drawing. Draw a big smiley face or a cute puppy. Or look for a crack in the sidewalk, maybe with some weeds peeking through, and make it part of your drawing.



Do you know someone who can use a positive message? A loved one, neighbor, or friend?



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## Paint Kindness Rocks

Surprise others with kindness rocks when they least expect it.  
Place throughout the store or in your neighborhood.

### You Need

- Smooth rocks, about the size of the palm of your hand
- Acrylic paint
- Paintbrushes or paint pens
- Permanent markers
- Non-toxic sealant, such as Mod Podge
- Clear spray paint

**1.** Rinse and dry the rocks to make sure they are smooth and free of dirt or sand. If you can't find any rocks, you can buy river rocks at most hardware stores.

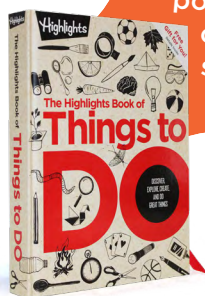
**2.** Paint your rocks a solid color, a pattern, or a mix of both. Try putting polka dots or stripes on a rock, or create a decorative frame for your kind words. Just leave enough space for your message and make sure to let your paint dry completely. It also works to leave your rock unpainted, and just write the message in a bright color that contrasts with the rock's natural surface.

**3.** Write your message with a permanent marker.

**4.** Once your rock is complete, turn it over and write #kindnessrocks on the bottom. Then cover the entire rock with sealant. After the sealant dries, go outside to apply a coating of clear spray paint (so you don't breathe it in) to ensure your message will last in all kinds of weather. Ask an adult for help when applying the spray paint.

**5.** Leave your kindness rocks for others to find! Have a parent help you check if it's okay to leave the rocks in public spaces.

Take pictures and share on social media  
#highlightsrandomactsofkindness



Fun-size version  
Using permanent  
markers, write  
positive messages  
on unpainted,  
solid-colored  
rocks.



### Here are some ideas for messages:

- Enjoy your journey.
- Smile!
- You matter.
- Rainbows rock!
- Show your true colors!
- Don't worry! Be happy!
- Hugs!
- Peace
- Breathe
- Stay kind and rock on!
- Shine on!
- Love yourself.
- You're brilliant.
- You rock!

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## Conversation Starters: How to Be a Good Friend

Long-lasting friendships are a treasure. But they require effort and consideration of each other's feelings. To have a friend, you need to be a friend. Use this guide to talk about friendship.

### Five Thought-Provoking Questions about Friendship

**1.** *Would you rather have a friend who agrees with everything you say and do, or one who has different ideas and opinions but respects you?*

**Tip:** Give your friends room to be who they are and be willing to take turns. People will be more likely to enjoy spending time with you if you are open to their ideas and let them go first sometimes. Your friends have unique personalities, likes, dislikes, and ways of doing things. Remember, you don't have to agree on everything! Some of the best friends have very different ideas and opinions. What matters is that they respect each other, even when they disagree.

**2.** *Would you rather have one or two good friends you can count on no matter what—or be popular with a bunch of kids who might talk behind your back?*

**Tip:** Listen to your friends' ideas and interests. You don't always need to share your own opinions and experiences. Just as it makes you feel good when someone shows a genuine interest in what's important to you, your friends will feel good when you listen to what they have to say.

**3.** *Would you rather participate in an after-school activity where you can make new friends—or join a club or team with the friends you already have?*

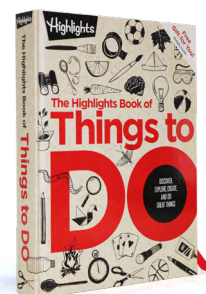
**Tip:** If you choose to join a new activity, be careful not to hurt your friends' feelings. But know that we all can sometimes make careless mistakes. It's important to say "I'm sorry," even if you didn't mean to make a friend feel bad.

**4.** *Would you rather participate in a sport you love where you can excel individually—or one where you aren't the best player but can share triumphs and disappointments with your friends?*

**Tip:** When you disagree with friends' choices, try to be understanding of their feelings and points of view. Think about how you can compromise. For example, if you and a friend each want to play a different game, maybe you can play a little of both. Or find something different to play that you can both agree on.

**5.** *Would you rather initiate an activity or outing with friends—or wait for friends to approach you?*

**Tip:** Ask your friends if they want to do something without waiting for them to ask you first. Think about the games and activities your friends like and offer to do those things with them. It feels good to be invited and shows your friends that you enjoy spending time with them.



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