Dear Parent/Guardian:

Today in your child’s classroom, I read the book *Join In and Play* by Cheri J. Meiners. This book teaches children about getting along with each other, making friends, and playing together. Students learned how classmates and friends play with each other by discussing rules, being a good sport, and cooperating with others.

To support this lesson at home, you can play a game and act out the following as simple role-plays or a simple discussion.

Ask your child to tell you ways to ask other children to play. Answers may include the following:
- Saying, “Hi” and smiling.
- Asking, “What are you doing?”
- Asking, “Can I play too?”

In addition, your child can share ways to deal with disappointment if a friend says that they don’t want to play:
- Wait and ask to play later when there is a break or a new game starts.
- Find another friend to play with.
- Ask an adult to intervene.

Here are some ways to practice ways to include others by inviting them to play and cooperating with each other.
- Asking, “Would you like to play?”
- Asking, “Do you want a turn?”
- Saying, “This is fun, why don’t you play with us too.”

We also discussed how to play and get along in a group. Sometimes things don’t go smoothly and it’s important for kids to understand that losing in a game, not getting a turn, or being picked last are part of playing with others. The class also learned ways to help kids who are having a bad day by being kind, using words to express feelings, listening to each other and solving problems together. Showing respect helps others be your friend.

If you would like more information about the ABC program, please contact me or visit the Project Cornerstone web site at www.projectcornerstone.org. And, if you have a few hours a month to volunteer at school, let me know. I would be glad to tell you how you can get involved with this great program!

Sincerely,

ABC Volunteer

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Telephone/Email