

A Hero's First Friend
Curriculum Companion Packet

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Dear Educator or Parent,

This story reminds us that heroism often begins with a smile, a wave, or an act of friendship.

In A Hero's First Friend, Bennett learns that being a hero means welcoming others, showing kindness, and helping everyone feel they belong.

Each of us has the power to model inclusion and compassion for young learners.

Use this packet to inspire classroom discussions and community-building moments that celebrate the courage of making new friends.

Signed,

Jerald L. Hoover

Author & Creator, The Hero Book Series™

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www.TheHeroBookSeries.com

Lesson Plan & SEL Alignment

Theme: Friendship, Inclusion, and Kindness

Learning Objectives:

- Recognize ways to invite and include others.
- Demonstrate kind behavior and teamwork.
- Understand that heroes build friendships through caring actions.

Core SEL Competencies:

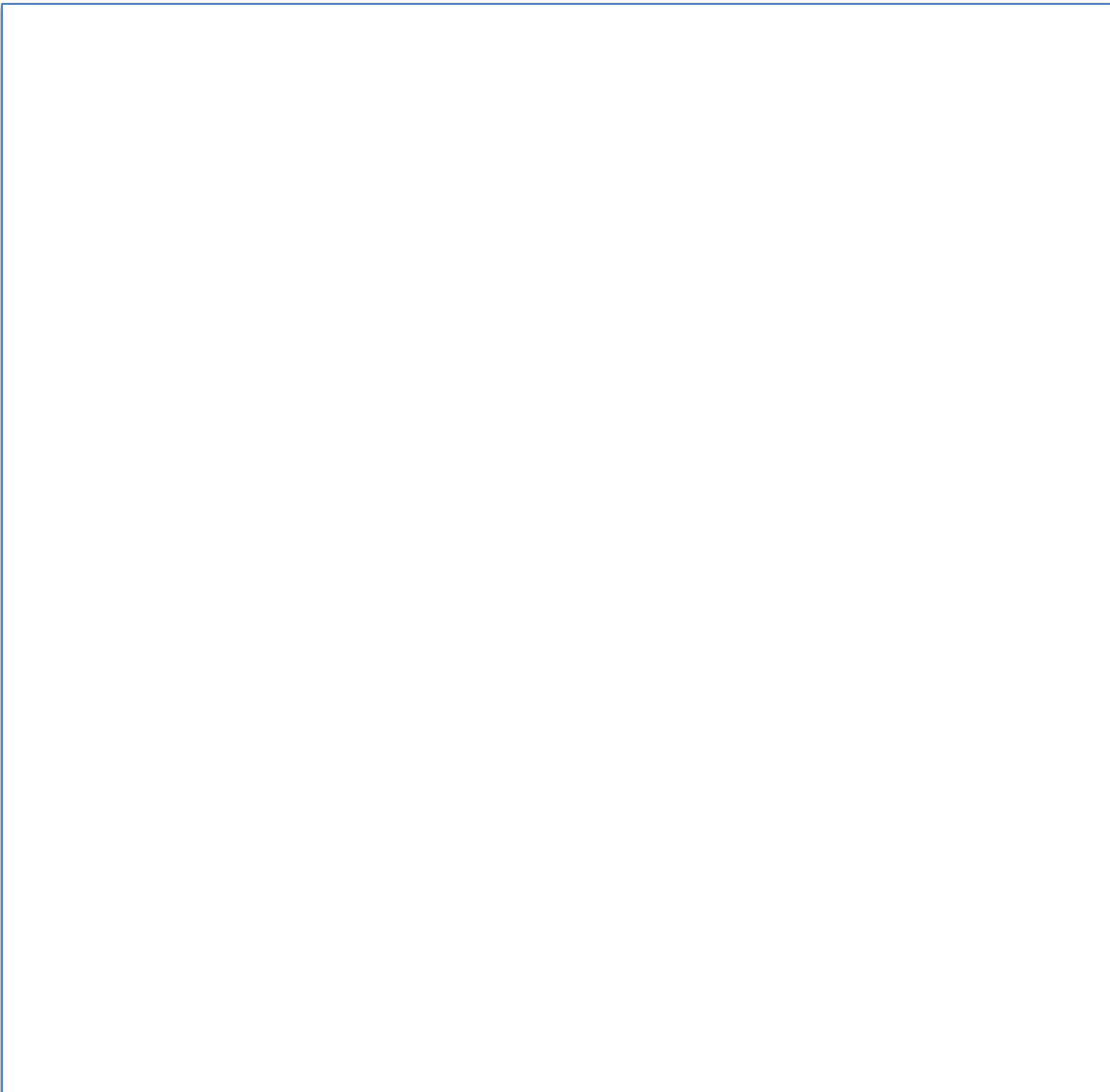
- Social Awareness
- Relationship Skills
- Self-Awareness
- Responsible Decision-Making

Standards Alignment:

- CASEL-aligned
- Meets Pre-K–K language and social-emotional literacy standards

Activities + Reflection Prompts

- Friendship Chain — Students link paper rings showing kind actions they performed for others.
- Hero's Circle — Practice inviting a shy classmate to play or join group activities.
- Sharing Time Reflection — “Who made a new friend today? How did it make you feel?”
- Coloring Page Prompt — Bennett waving to his new friend.



Discussion Questions

- How did Bennett show kindness in the story?
- Why is it important to make new friends feel welcome?
- How can you be a hero by being a friend to others?
- What does being a “Hero Friend” mean to you?

Implementation Notes

- Ideal for circle time, morning meeting, or SEL block.
- Time: 20–30 minutes per session.
- Materials: paper, crayons, string, tape, chart paper.
- Recommended follow-up: Family Friendship Reflection Sheet (optional take-home).

HERO FRIEND AWARD

Presented to:

For showing kindness, inclusion, and friendship — just like Bennett in A
Hero's First Friend!

“You don’t need a cape to be a hero — just a friendly heart.”

Signed,
Jerald L. Hoover
Author, The Hero Book Series™

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