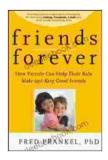
## How Parents Can Help Their Kids Make and Keep Good Friends

Friendships play a crucial role in every individual's journey through life, and for children, they're no exception. Positive friendships support children's social, emotional, and cognitive development. They provide a sense of belonging, teach them how to interact with others, and help them develop empathy and compassion. As parents, we want the best for our children, and that includes helping them make and keep good friends.



### Friends Forever: How Parents Can Help Their Kids Make and Keep Good Friends by Fred Frankel

★ ★ ★ ★ 4.3 out of 5 Language : English File size : 1290 KB Text-to-Speech : Enabled Enhanced typesetting: Enabled Word Wise : Enabled Print length : 320 pages : Enabled Lendina Screen Reader : Supported



Here are some strategies to help your child develop and maintain healthy friendships:

#### 1. Encourage your child to join activities

One of the best ways to help your child make friends is to encourage them to get involved in activities that they enjoy. This could be anything from

sports to music to art to volunteering. When kids are involved in activities, they have the opportunity to meet other children who share their interests. And when they're having fun, they're more likely to open up and make new friends.

#### 2. Help your child develop social skills

Another important way to help your child make friends is by teaching them social skills. These skills include things like how to start a conversation, how to listen to others, and how to cooperate. You can teach your child these skills by modeling them yourself, and by providing them with opportunities to practice. For example, you can role-play different social situations with your child, or you can encourage them to participate in group activities.

#### 3. Praise your child for positive social behavior

When your child exhibits positive social behavior, be sure to praise them. This will help them to understand what you expect from them, and it will also encourage them to continue to behave in this way. For example, you could praise your child for being a good listener, or for being kind to other children.

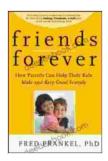
#### 4. Help your child resolve conflicts

Conflicts are a normal part of any friendship. However, it's important to help your child learn how to resolve conflicts in a healthy way. Teach them to communicate their feelings calmly and respectfully, and to listen to the other person's point of view. You can also help your child to brainstorm solutions to conflicts.

#### 5. Be a supportive listener

If your child ever comes to you with a problem with a friend, be supportive and listen to what they have to say. Let them know that you're there for them, and that you'll help them through it. Avoid being judgmental or dismissive, and instead focus on helping your child to understand their feelings and develop a solution.

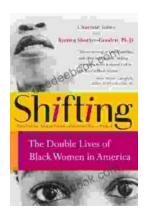
Making and keeping friends is an important part of growing up. By following these strategies, you can help your child develop the skills and confidence they need to make and keep good friends. Not only will this benefit them in the present, but it will also lay the foundation for healthy relationships in the future.



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