



Friend 2 Friend Social Learning Society

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Friend 2 Friend Social Learning Society?

Friend 2 Friend Social Learning Society is a non-profit charity located in North Vancouver BC. F2FSLs has one mandate to promote understanding, acceptance and friendships for children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and related developmental disabilities.

How does F2FSLs meet its mandate?

Friend 2 Friend provides ASD awareness presentations to children and adults in schools and community groups throughout BC.

What are F2FSLs programs?

F2FSLs has developed and provides two types of awareness-training programs for children (age's 3 years and up).

- Puppet Presentations (ages 3-8)
- Simulation Games (ages 9-and up)

Friend 2 Friend also provides teachers with a Follow-Up Guide after each presentation

What is a Puppet Presentation?

The Puppet Presentation is designed for children preschool to grades 3-4. The goal of our puppet presentation is to build awareness about disabilities such as ASD. The puppet "show" (visual learning) portion of the presentation is approximately 10 minutes followed by "What did Sherry Learn" (auditory learning) 10 minute Q& A.. The last segment of our presentation is the "Pass the Puppet Circle" (tactile learning) where the children are given an opportunity to hold the puppets and review the learning goals once again with Mr. Monkeybones and Mrs. Bearbottomz (teacher puppets). We end the presentation by giving each child an "I'm a Good Friend" sticker. **Note: We encourage full inclusion for puppet presentation including the focus child (where appropriate).**

What is a Simulation Game Presentation?

The Simulation Game is designed for student's grades 5 and up. It is a sensory and communication "Simon Says" games altered to make it difficult for the students to finish the game. The game portion of the presentation takes approximately 8 minutes. It is then followed up by a 15 minute "What does it feel like to have ASD" (Q & A). At this time the presenter links the students experience in the simulation game to that of an individual with ASD. The presentation is ended with the "Seven Basic Friendship Tips" and a brief discussion of "All Kinds of Minds". During a presentation the focus child's name is not mentioned however there is reference to the diagnosis of ASD and related disorders. During the simulation game it may not be appropriate for the focus child to be present, as a number of sensory stimuli such as light, sound and smell are used which may be over-stimulating for the focus child. We end the presentation by giving each student an "I'm a Good Friend" sticker and treat (with permission).

Where and when do presentations take place?

F2FSLs presenters visit schools and community groups to provide our awareness training programs. Presentation days are Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursday between 10 am and 2 pm and Friday (mornings only) between 10 am and 12 noon.

How many children can take part in a presentation?

We suggest presentations by class 20-30 students. However we can present to two classes at a time 40-60 students if need be.

How many presentations can you do per day?

We will present one session before recess, a Kindergarten class at recess time, two sessions between recess and lunch and two sessions after lunch for a total of 5-6 presentations per day.

What does the school need to supply?

We require a small quiet room to present to multiple classes. We bring all other supplies and materials us - nothing else is required from the school.

How long does a presentation take?

Puppet presentations take between 20 and 30 minutes. Simulation games take between 30-45 minutes.

Who may request a F2FSLs visit?

Anyone interested in or actively supporting children with special needs in an inclusive community setting.

Who developed the F2FSLs programs?

The F2FSLs programs were designed and developed by parents of children with ASD. All of our staff are volunteers devoting their time and energy to this worthwhile cause.

How much does a visit from F2FSLs cost?

F2FSLs is a non-profit charity. All services are by donation. (For more details please contact Heather McCracken)

Do you have presentations for Parents and Professionals?

F2FSLs have also developed a simulation game/seminar for parents and professionals such as:

- ✓ PAC Meetings
- ✓ School Staff Meetings
- ✓ In-Service or Professional Days
- ✓ University and College Student Presentations
- ✓ Seminars and Conferences
- ✓ Fundraising Events

For more information please visit our website at www.members.shaw.ca/friend2friend/ or contact Heather McCracken friend2friend@shaw.ca or 604 671 4028