



# Review Card 03



## What to do if...

... you see that they have problem with making friends?

## Difficulties with making friends

Children with learning disorders often face social challenges. For all children, friendships offer the acceptance, approval and sense of belonging they need to develop and grow. Often, children with learning disorders struggles to connect with other kids and make friends, usually because of low self-esteem or fear to be rejected.

## Things you can do:

- Create opportunities for children to work together and get to know each other better ex. model lesson about integration
- Organize games for them to talk and connect with each other
- Plan ahead and organize the environment around games and activities enjoyable and at what they are good
- Teach and practice a variety of conversation starters Encourage them to speak to someone who's on their own
- Group children for activities by common interests
- Teach them to be approachable (like avoid wearing earphones and practice positive body-language)
- Teach them to observe and pay attention to others and learn how others do it
- Give them some responsibilities in the classroom
- Take it step by step and don't push too much and don't put pressure

## Some examples of activities:

- Pen friends
- Communication games (active listening, learn some conversations starters, open questions techniques)
- Encourage the child to identify three classmates he or she thinks might be fun to play with and arrange an afterschool activity for them