



Developing Friendships in a Virtual Space

Being a Friend

Please take a moment to watch [How to be a Great Virtual Friend](#) for some helpful tips on how to be a friend in a virtual space.

Starting a Conversation

- As with any conversation, asking open-ended questions is a great place to start. Some e-Buddies might still give one-word answers and may need a bit more prompting to elaborate. Ask follow-up questions to continue the conversation.
- Most importantly, be patient and confident-remember that there is more to conversation than words. Our e-Buddies have wonderful things that they want to communicate and with time and a little patience, you will get to know all about your friend. Just remember to relax and enjoy the experience!
- It is very important that you set boundaries. Sometimes you might have more time and are available for frequent conversations, and other times, not. Let your e-Buddy know whether you are available and best times to communicate.

Participating in the larger e-Buddies Community

- Attending e-Buddies virtual events and engaging in the e-Buddies Community platform is a great way to continue to develop friendships virtually. In these spaces, you can interact with other e-Buddies through discussion posts, Q&As, and interest groups as well as fun events like trivia and movie nights.
 - Interact with others on e-Buddies Community! You can do this by responding to a poll question, liking, or responding to someone's comment, joining interest groups, and more.
 - During virtual events, start conversations, answer questions, or ask the group a question by unmuting or talking in the chat. Some of the best conversations during virtual events start with a question from one of you! Review the "Suggested Conversations Starters" section for ideas.

Suggested Conversation Starter Topics

- Can you tell me about your family?
- How do you spend your free time?
- What do you normally do during the week?
- What is a dream you have for your life?
- What makes you laugh?
- What is it like where you live? Weather? Landscape?
- What is your favorite season?
- Do you play any sports?
- What country do you want to visit the most?
- What is your favorite.....?
 - Food
 - Movie
 - Singer/band
 - Restaurant
 - TV Show
 - Book
 - Animal
 - Memory