

Dear Parents

Reading is a valuable skill that can open many doors. Here are ideas for using the *Friend* to help others learn to read.

- Use illustrations. Ask your child to describe what they see and then find that part of the story as they read or listen.
- Read stories out loud and have children follow along with their finger.
- When they come across a new word, explain what it means and have them write it down to practice later.
- Ask questions about the stories to help them understand. “How is Lucy feeling right now?” “What did Jesus teach about prayer?” “What do you think will happen next?”
- After you finish a story, talk about it. Ask your child to tell you what happened. What did they learn? What did they like about it?

We’d love to hear your thoughts about using these stories to teach others!

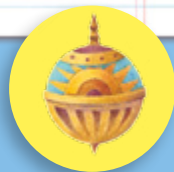
New Friend

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With love,
The *Friend*

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ON THE FRIEND COVER
Illustration by Natalie Hoopes