

## ◆ Friendship ◆

friends moves counters downwards and backwards.

◆ Encourage the children to talk about a time when they fell out with a friend but managed to smooth things over. Compile a list of the strategies they used to keep that relationship going. They can then make illustrated posters of these strategies for a school or class display.

◆ The children can be asked to write poems on the nature of friendship, using either 'Friendship is like the sea...' or 'Friendship is like a road...' as an opening line. Poems built entirely on comparisons are often very effective, and provide thought-provoking material for future assemblies.

## ◆ Me and my mates ◆

**There's a very old saying that goes: 'Although you can't choose your family, you can choose your friends.' Friendship is a very special gift, and it must be treated with care if it is to last. Sometimes we take our friends for granted. This poem tells the sad tale of someone who did just that.**

My mate, Malcolm,  
whose dad is in the Army,  
wants to be an actor –  
I told him he was barmy.

My mate, Melanie,  
is looking rather sad.  
She wants to take up wrestling –  
I told her she was mad.

My mate, Martin,  
who lives in football kit,  
wants to learn the violin –  
I said he'd look a twit.

My mate, Miriam,  
who I think's really cool,  
kissed her little sister –  
I said she looked a fool.

No mates now, mate,  
no one round to play. ▶