

DO YOU HAVE A BEST FRIEND?

By Himisha Gupta, 9 years

"See you tomorrow," I exclaimed and ran home. And like this, we parted - unaware of the fact that we would not be able to meet each other physically for a long time, thanks to the pandemic. However, this was not the end of our friendship- merely a halt; a break. Let's zoom through the past and get to know how I met her, my best friend, Sameeka and her twin sister, Samaira.

It was a bright sunny morning and I merrily trotted to the bus stop, eager to start grade 2. Out of the corner of my eye, I noticed two petite twin girls holding their mum's fists tightly. It was their first day to a new school. We all got aboard the school bus. As I settled in my seat, I saw the twin sisters sitting silently, looking out of the window. After we reached our classes, I realised that one of them was in my class. And, ma'am had made her my "buddy", which meant that I had the task of guiding her for the first week. "Hi. I am Himisha," I said to her. "Nice to meet you. My name is Sameeka," she replied. This introduction was enough to trigger the start of a new friendship.

Sameeka and I sat together in class and chit-chatted about silly girly things during breaks or sometimes talked seriously about school work. Even I didn't realise when this mingling turned into a proper friendship. We were always together in school- during lunch, recess, art or sports class. The long bus rides were also memorable as Sameeka, Samaira, and I often played fun games. Soon, we were inseparable and we started to go to each other's house for several play dates. I love it when the Sam's (That's how they are called) come over.

Sameeka is a really good friend of mine. She has all the qualities that a true friend must have. She is trustworthy, kind and helpful. We both support each other in times of need and share our joy. In this online age, we chat virtually and do video calls. I recently sent a postcard and a gift to her. I was elated when the reply came but missed her a lot. I wish to meet and hug her soon. I would like to end my essay with a small quote describing our friendship, "Friendship is not one big thing, it's a million little things..."

Thank you!

