

Monday

Hello, I'm Millie



illie's Mark®
Inspiring Excellence for 10 Years

Connect with others

Resources

- ★ Soft toy of your choosing
- ★ Box, bag, suitcase
- ★ Large sheet of paper
- ★ Pens.

Millie's Mark stands for a setting where every single person caring for a child is trained, ready and confident. That relationship, the feeling of being known and safely held in the minds of the adults around you, is what makes the children confident enough to reach out to others.

Today we welcome Millie, who is new here and doesn't know anybody yet. As the children help her to settle, share who they are and work out how to be a good friend to her, they're practising the very thing that keeps all of us well - belonging.



Important:

Activities with children must always be risk assessed.

Activity Outline

- ★ **Set the scene before children arrive.** Millie waiting in a basket or gift box with a ribbon, a small suitcase and a letter addressed to the children



'Hello everyone! My name is Millie. I've come to stay with you because you're such a special nursery and you look after each other so well. I'm feeling a bit shy because I don't know anybody yet. I love... dancing/stories/the colour yellow etc. But the thing I like best is making new friends. Would you tell me your name and something about yourself?'

- ★ **Pass Millie around the circle.** Whoever is holding her speaks; a natural turn-taking prop that gives quieter children the opportunity to have the time and space to speak. Prompts for the children: your name and one thing you love doing
- ★ **For babies and young toddlers, drop the verbal expectation entirely:** Millie waves hello to each child by name, offers a high-five or a gentle touch, and joins them at floor level
- ★ Ask, "How can we be a good friend to Millie?"
- ★ Scribe their answers exactly as spoken onto a large outline of Millie
- ★ **Follow up with:** What could we do if Millie feels lonely today?

Extension ideas

- ★ Millie needs a bed, a peg, a place at the snack table etc. let the children decide where
- ★ Photo each child with Millie for a Millie's New Friends display
- ★ Buddy role: a rota for who looks after Millie, modelling care and responsibility
- ★ Millie's suitcase can hold a photo album she brought from home to prompt talk about families and community.

Top tip



How many and where? Check you have adequate first aid kits available, by making sure staff wouldn't need to travel longer than 60 seconds from an injured child to the first aid kit. This includes first aid kits available while children are in your outdoor spaces.

