San Valentino è la piacevole occasione per giocare con la lingua e richiamare l'attenzione degli alunni su una tradizione tipicamente anglosassone.

Through the centuries Saint Valentine’s Day 14 February has become a time to exchange messages of love and affection. In our classroom our pupils can use this festivity to express their friendship towards each other. Teach this rap and then give out a small red heart to each child. Invite a child to sit in a chair at the front of the class while the class says the rap. After OK! The child in the chair picks someone to be his/her valentine who then takes his/her place at the front of the class. The new Valentine puts his/her heart into a box which has previously been decorated with hearts. The game proceeds until everyone has had a turn. Once a child deposits his/her heart they can’t be chosen again. This allows for all the children in the class to take part.

**Valentine, Valentine, Won’t you be my Valentine?**

**Please be my Valentine!**

**Ok!** (Everyone put their thumbs up)

**A friendship card**

Explain that the children are going to make a friendship card. Each child can choose a friend either in the class or in another class to send his/her card to. Invite the children to bring to school: card, red paper, scissors and glue. The children cut out red hearts and decorate their cards. When they have finished, tell them that they can write something inside about their friend. Ask your class to think of some words (adjectives) to describe a friend for example kind, generous and so on and write them on the board. Accept words in Italian but then translate them into English and get the class to repeat several times. On the board write the steps for their message:

- **Line 1**: The friend’s name.
- **Line 2**: I like my special friend because he/she’s (2 adjectives that describe the person) e.g. sweet and kind.
- **Line 3**: from (senders name)

**A postbox**

Make a Valentine’s postbox with the help of the children. Divide the class into three groups and allocate each group a different task. Group one can cover a box with red paper and cut a slot in the top. Group two can cut out hearts and cupids to decorate the box. Group three can write in decorative letters POSTBOX and the delivery times. The children can post their friendship cards which are then delivered by the class postman.

**Assessment**

Prepare a worksheet of broken hearts, half of which are pictures and the other anagrams. Invite the children to unscramble and match the words to the correct pictures.

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**Broken Hearts**

A few days before your lesson cut out enough red paper hearts so that each child can have half of a heart. Cut each heart in half using scissors with zig-zag edges. On one half write What’s this? and either draw or stick a picture of vocabulary you want to revise and on the other half the answer. Introduce the activity by explaining what it means to have a broken heart and show the children the two parts of a heart. The aim of the activity is to mend their broken hearts by finding their partners. Put all the hearts in a box and mix them up and pass them out. Ask the children to stand up and find their partners. Then ask each couple to read out their mended hearts. Mix up the hearts again and play again.

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