

# Circle Activity: Warm Fuzzy

## Objectives:

To teach children an appropriate physical touch, how to ask for something from a peer, how to wait for a response from a peer, and how to respect a peer's feelings and personal space

## Activity:

The first child enters the circle and becomes the "warm fuzzy." The child crawls around within the circle while the teacher(s) and other children sing (to the tune of "The Itsy-Bitsy Spider"):

*[Name] is a warm fuzzy crawling on the rug  
[Name] is a warm fuzzy crawling on the rug  
[s/he] wants to give a hug, yes, [s/he] wants to give a hug  
Oh, [Name] is a warm fuzzy crawling on the rug*

When the verse is over, the child chooses a peer and uses appropriate language to ask the peer for a hug. For example, "John, can I have a hug? Or "John, can I give you a hug?" The child then waits for the peer to respond. If yes, the child gives the peer a hug, and the peer becomes the "warm fuzzy" until everyone has had a turn. If the peer says no, the child should choose another peer and try again until a positive response is given.

## Considerations:

- A teacher can model being the warm fuzzy, making the request, and giving an appropriate hug
- The teacher can give the child the specific language to make the request, and words in response to a "No" (i.e., "Oh, darn it," "That's okay, I'll ask someone else," etc.)
- If the child receives more than one "No" from a peer, the result could become negative. The teacher can prevent a negative reaction by prompting the child to add to the request, something like, "I promise to give you a gentle hug" or "a safe hug," or by redirecting the child to "Try asking me" (the teacher).