# Buddy Benches Benefit School Playgrounds



It's recess! Kids are screaming and balls are flying. Then you take a closer look, and find that some kids aren't joining in on the fun.

Christian Bucks, a 2nd grader at Roundtown Elementary School, witnessed lonely classmates at his school's playground, and wanted to make sure everyone had a friend. His solution? The Buddy Bench – modeled after a bench he saw in a German school brochure.

How Does The Buddy Bench Work?

|  |
| --- |
| **If you are sitting on the bench …**  You are looking for a friend. When someone asks you to play, join them, and always remember to glance over at the school's Buddy Bench to invite new friends to join in on the fun. |

|  |
| --- |
| **If you are not sitting on the bench …**  Ask your classmate on the buddy bench to play, and make a new friend today! Keep growing your circle of friends until everyone has someone to play with. :) |

4 Reasons To Sit On The Buddy Bench

1. If you are **new to the school**.

2. If you want to **make new friends**.

3. If your **friends aren't at school** that day.

4. If **you want to play something different** than what your friend is playing.

Make Buddies Not Bullies

Every seven minutes a child is bullied, according to an estimate by the U.S. Department of Justice. Promote inclusion – don't let your school's playground be a statistic. Give students a safe space to eliminate loneliness and foster friendships.