

## Crescent Elementary

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## Friendship Bench Teaches Kindness

By Alan Saldivar, First Grade Teacher

Crescent Elementary students have enthusiastically embraced the ideals of a newly established bench on the playground, known as the Friendship Bench. The idea for the Friendship

Shele Tamaki Principal

Bench was originally created in 2012 by a fifth grader, Acacia Woodley from Palm Bay, Florida. She felt that through kindness and friendship, students would feel better about themselves and be willing and eager to make new friends. The bench provides a special place where students can meet up with friends, find a new friend, or let others know that they need some comfort, support or just someone to talk to. Money raised by donations from the families of students in our 3rd grade classes made it possible to spruce up the bench and surrounding area. Our head custodian, Albert was the head designer and builder, and with help from custodians, Tom and Robert, the area has become very inviting!

