Surprising facts about friendship

1.Listen to the radio programme and complete the gaps in the names of the facts

1 _____ have friends too!

2 We have more real friends thanks to _____ _____!

3 Having friends at work makes you more _____ .

4 _____ can make you lose two friends.

5 Friendship is good for your _____.



2.Listen again and complete the chart

Fact 1 some examples	
Fact 2 the reason	
Fact 3 the reason, and the exception	
Fact 4 the reason	
Fact 5 the reason, and a statistic	

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Transcript

Rickie You're listening to Radio Oxford and I'm Rickie Hammond.

Joanna And I'm Joanna Keys.

Rickie Now, I wonder how many of you know what today is? Well, it's Friendship Day! All over the world today people are celebrating those wonderful people called friends.

We've been doing some research this morning about friends and we've discovered five fascinating facts about friends for you. Just listen to these. Joanna?

Joanna FRIENDS FACT NUMBER 1

Animals have friends too! Yes, apparently, we humans aren't the only ones who have friends. There's strong evidence that animals like chimpanzees, horses, elephants, dolphins and even bats can form friendships for life. And they even make friends with animals that aren't from their species!

Rickie FRIENDS FACT NUMBER 2

We have more real friends thanks to social media! You may find this hard to believe, but since the invention of the internet, and especially since social media came on the scene, we actually have more real-world friends than before. People always say we're so busy with all our online friends that we don't have time for our real friends, don't they? But in fact the opposite is true. A doctor in Psychology at Sheffield Hallam University has done some research that shows that the internet actually helps us to keep up friendships. And why is that? Because with social media it's easier to stay in touch. In the past we used to lose touch with friends because of distance or lack of time. So now you know...

Joanna FRIENDS FACT NUMBER 3

Having friends at work makes you more productive. Now, you probably think that if you have lots of friends at work you waste a lot of time gossiping with them. Well, listen to this. According to various studies, having friends at work makes you more productive and more creative. And I can believe that, because you know, if you have friends at work you're going to be happier, which in turn probably makes you work better. Just one thing though – don't be friends with your boss! That might make your colleagues trust you less, and they might think you got your job because of your friendship.

Rickie FRIENDS FACT NUMBER 4

Love can make you lose two friends. Yes, it's a sad fact that you can lose two friends when you fall in love. According to the anthropologist Robin Dunbar, who's studied the effect that love has on friendship, when a new person comes into your life, he – or she, of course – displaces two other people in your circle of friends. He says that when you're in love, you spend less time with your friends, and this means that friendships deteriorate. And you know something, from my experience that's true.

Joanna FRIENDS FACT NUMBER 5

So this is the last one, and it's good news! Friendship is good for your health. It doesn't matter if you're a man or a woman. People who have a lot of friends are less stressed and live longer. Research shows that you are 50% more likely to have a long life if you have a good social network.

So now we're asking you to choose a song for a special friend. Call us or text us on 08001 570 892. The lines are open now, and our first caller is Mandy from Didcot.

Caller Hi, Joanna! Can you play *I'll be there for you* for my best friend? Her name's Annie and I love her to bits...

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