

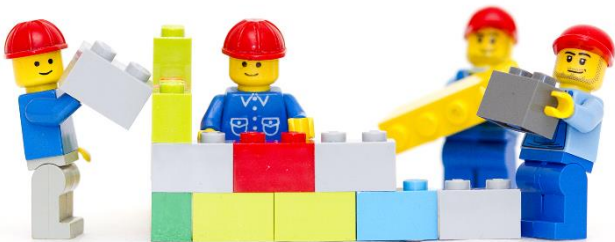
Turn taking



Taking turns is important as it helps your child learn to share attention with another person. They learn to stay focused on an activity and to listen and wait. Turn taking is really important in developing early communication skills.

Remember to..

- ✓ Keep the game simple, so your child only has to wait a short time.
- ✓ Start off by taking a turn yourself.
- ✓ Encourage your child to take their turn.
- ✓ Model the appropriate language: “*Sam’s turn*”, “*Mummy’s turn*” or “*your turn*”, “*my turn*”
- ✓ When your child has taken their turn, encourage them to wait e.g. “Sam waiting, Mummy’s turn”
- ✓ Start with one person taking turns with your child and gradually extend this to 1 or 2 more people, when you feel they are ready



Try this....

- ✓ Cause and effect toys e.g. pushing a button to make something pop, music boxes, wind-up toys
- ✓ Sensory items e.g. noisy toys, light toys, tactile materials, water play, taking turns to blow bubbles
- ✓ Construction toys e.g. taking turns to build a tower with lego or blocks and knocking it over when it gets really tall.
- ✓ Physical play e.g. taking turns to go down a slide or to tickle
- ✓ Exchange toys e.g. big soft balls, beanbags, rainmakers, cars. Take turns to e.g. roll a ball or car to each other, or shake a rainmaker.
- ✓ People toys e.g. musical instruments, balloons (blowing one up and letting it go), wind-up toys, spinning tops, peek-a-boo games, turning pages in books or lift-the-flap books, posting boxes, completing puzzles