

I Can Share and Take Turns!

Learning to share and take turns helps your child:

- Understand her role in getting along with peers and siblings
- Develop cooperation skills
- Increase her ability to make new friends and interact with others

Ideas to try with your child:

- Play simple card games such as *Memory*, *Go Fish* or *Old Maid*. These games provide a fun way to learn how to take turns. Card games can be bought at dollar stores.
- Take your child to a playground where other kids are playing. This gives her a chance to practice waiting and taking turns going on the swings or down the slide.
- Invite a friend/neighbor over for a play-date. This gives your child an opportunity to develop friendships and learn how to share her toys in a familiar environment.

If your child is struggling:

- Attend a story time at your local library or bookstore. This will allow a shy child to begin interacting with peers while still feeling secure with mom or dad close by.
- It is hard to share toys with a sibling. Say: "I am setting the timer for 6 minutes. You can play with the teddy bear now. When the timer goes off after 6 minutes, it will be your brother's turn to play with it."

Going further:

- Enjoy stories with your child about sharing such as: Llama, Llama Time to Share by Anna Dewdney, The Rainbow Fish by Mark Pfister or It's Mine by Leo Lionni. These books are available at most libraries and bookstores.



The WA State Department of Early Learning and the Richland School District believes that parents, families, and caregivers are young children's best teachers. This resource guide, part of *Strong Foundations for School: Resource Guides for Parents of Young Children*, highlights a key developmental skill for **children ages 3-4 years** that parents can help improve at home.

Adapted from *WA State Early Learning and Development Guidelines, 2012*: "Share and take turns with other children." Building Relationships, Ages-3-4 years, pg. 59