

Other things to try: 2b

Encouraging children to take turns during play

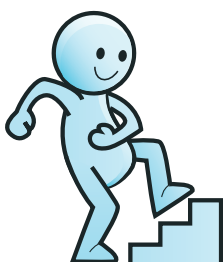


Why is this important?

Communication is a two-way process where each person takes a turn. These early turn-taking games will help children practise their turn-taking skills.

What to do

- Sit opposite the child and take turns doing the following:
 - ★ Rolling a ball or pushing a car to each other.
 - ★ Rolling a ball at skittles and knocking them down.
 - ★ Posting shapes into a shape sorter.
 - ★ Pressing buttons/knobs on press up toys.
 - ★ Placing rings on a stacker.
 - ★ Turning pages in a book and lifting flaps.
 - ★ Placing a brick or stacking cup on a tower.
 - ★ Blowing bubbles.
 - ★ Feeding a doll or teddy.
 - ★ Making splashes in the bath.
 - ★ With musical instruments (e.g. banging a drum, blowing a whistle).
- The list is endless, just use your imagination!



Step up

- Pause for a little longer each time before taking your turn. This will encourage the child to wait a little longer.
- Introduce 'Ready, Steady, Go' if the child can wait long enough.

Step down

- Give a verbal prompt showing whose turn it is next (e.g. 'Mummy's turn' or 'Sunil's turn').
- Give a physical prompt (e.g. by gently holding the child's hand to help him/her wait).
- Give a visual prompt (e.g. by pointing to the next person or looking at them).

