

Other things to try: 4d

Taking turns in a small group

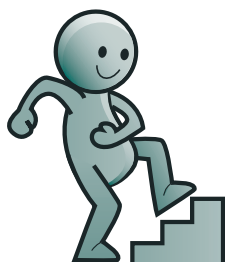


Why is this important?

Communication is a two-way process: to be successful communicators children must learn to take turns as speaker and listener. There are more ideas for group activities to improve communication skills in the *WellComm Handbook*.

What to do

- Sit in a circle with a small group of (three) children and try:
 - ★ Rolling a ball/throwing a beanbag to each other, saying ‘Ellie’s turn, Ishmail’s turn’, etc.
 - ★ Passing a box of puzzle pieces, bricks, stacking cups, etc. round the circle. Play music and when the music stops, one child should take out an object and put a piece in the puzzle, a brick on the tower, etc.
 - ★ Playing games, such as skittles or team games, where one child runs up and back, then the next, taking it in turns.



Step up

- Increase the size of the group.
- Make each child’s turn longer so that there is a greater element of waiting.

Step down

- Start the activities with just you and one of the children: gradually introduce another child then another, building up so there are longer waits between turns.
- As you play, talk about what you are doing and whose turn it is next.

