

Taking Turns

Taking turns when playing helps your child to learn new skills, like how to start a conversation, how to share. It helps to build their attention and listening skills too.



Timing is important

It is important to give your child lots of waiting time after you have spoken. This will give them time to understand what you have said and think about what they want to say or do next. Waiting time will also help your child learn that conversation involves taking turns together!

Create opportunities

You can create lots of chances for your child to practice turn taking. This could be taking a turn in conversation or while playing together, like sharing the pieces of a jigsaw, making silly sounds or building a tower.

Respond straight away

When your child takes a turn, respond straight away and say something which matches their interest. Also try to match the length of your child's turn so you take equal turns.

Try it out and see how it goes...

What did you do..

(for example: When Alicia was playing with a car ramp, we took turns to push the cars)

How did this help your child?

(for example: After some practice, Alicia looked at me when it was my turn to push the car down the ramp)