

TURN TAKING

Start introducing the idea of waiting for a turn during your child's play.

Toys that have a cause and effect e.g. pop up toys can help the child understand when their turn has finished.

Other ideas to encourage turn taking:

- Building: Take turns to put a brick on to a tower.
- Click-clack track: Take turns to push the car down the track.
- Ball: Take turns to roll back and forth to each other.
- Bubbles: Take turns to blow bubbles.
- Post box: Take turns to post pictures into a post box.

Within all these activities, make sure you clearly say “Your turn” and “My turn”.

What happens if my child won't let me take a turn?

- say “waiting” to encourage them to learn to wait for their turn (you could also use Makaton for 'waiting' – simply make a stop sign with your hand).
- take a turn really quickly
- let them have 2 turns and you take 1 turn
- Demonstrate turn taking with sibling

Once the child is comfortable playing short turns during adult led play, encourage child to take turns with other people.

Why is turn taking so important?

- Teaches early rules of conversation – we take turns when we have conversations
- Child learns that their ideas are important
- This can help attention and listening