

## Plays, learns, and interacts with peers cooperatively

**Activity:** Playing Peek-a-boo is a favorite game for babies. Take turns “hiding” behind your hands or a cloth and “surprising each other.” You might have to hold a cloth up for baby to take her turn at first, but she’ll catch on quickly.

**Activity:** Take turns at clean up time. Place a toy in the toy box or on the shelf then encourage baby to do the same.



**Why:** Taking turns is an important first step to working with others. When you give your baby a turn, it teaches them that they are important, but it also teaches them that others are important too.



**Activity:** Help children find a way to share or play well together when they both want the same toy. “You both want the blocks to build with, but then neither of you has enough blocks to build a tall tower. Let’s take turn placing blocks on the same tower and see how tall it will be.” If they don’t agree, try to engage one of them with a different toy.

**Why:** Problem solving and how to handle conflict are skills that everyone must learn. Learning to cooperate or just taking time to walk through what happened is a good way to let your child discover what went wrong themselves so they can apply those skills to future conflicts.