

Balanced Turn-Taking

How does balanced turn-taking help?

Children learn how to communicate in social interactions with their family. Turn-taking teaches a child what is expected of the child in the interaction. Taking a turn with you in a game or while eating, getting dressed, or getting in the car gives them an opportunity to engage with you and gives them a role in the interaction.

What does turn-taking involve?

- Having your child take turns by repeating what you do.
- Having your child take turns to start a new game by saying or doing something.

How to support children with turn-taking?

- Show your child how to take turns by taking a turn in an activity and then giving your child a turn.
- Pause to give your child a turn whenever you are playing games with him/her.
- Follow his interest and lead when playing with him/her.
- Find ways to take turns with different objects/games.

When to encourage turn-taking

- When you are playing simple games such as peek-a-boo or chase.
- During meal times, bath time, diapering, or washing hands to give your child a role in the routine.