



## Taking Turns

**Taking turns in play is an excellent way of developing your child's understanding of conversation.**

- Play turn taking games
  - roll a ball to each other
  - take turns to cuddle a teddy
  - take turns to blow bubbles
  - take turns to turn the pages in a book
  - Build a tower, taking turns to add the bricks
- Use pairs of noisemakers (shakers, tambourines, drums). Take turns making sounds. For example, your child bangs his drum, then you bang yours. Can you and your child continue taking turns to make a sequence of sounds?
- Have a puppet each. Take turns making your puppets say something such as "Boo!" "Hello" or "Bye!"
- Use "my turn" and "your turn" repetitively and consistently as you take a turn
- Use a gesture such as touching your chest to indicate "my turn" and "your turn" and encourage your child to copy you
- Use a prompt, for example, "wait" and an accompanying gesture, for example, your palm facing out, to help your child learn to wait for their turn
- Praise 'Good waiting' even if it's only for a short period of time or a few seconds!

