



Social and Emotional Development Activity for 6 to 12 Months

Learning to Share

The Toddler's Creed is "What's Mine is Mine. And What's Yours is Mine." But by engaging in simple activities, toddlers can have successful sharing experiences and learn sharing is an enjoyable thing to do.

Materials:

- Toys
- Finger food

What to do:

1. Hold out a toy to the infant and encourage her to do the same by saying, "Show me the giraffe" and "Show grandma the book." (At this age level, an infant will hold out a toy to show others but doesn't intend to give it away.)
 2. Let the infant continue to hold the object while you talk about it or point to pictures in the book so that the infant learns she can share an object without losing it.
 3. Share a cookie with the infant. Let the infant have a bite, and then you take a bite. Give the infant a cookie and say, "Give mommy a bite" and open your mouth. Encourage the infant to initiate the exchange.
- A. Give the child crackers or cookies during mealtime and say, "Give me one please." Put out your hand to show that you want one. When the child gives it to you, say, "Thank you." Do this again. The child will think this is a fun game and also will learn to use these words independently. Generalize this activity to various situations during playtime or any time you give and take from the child. Don't force the child to give you something. Wait a minute and then ask for it again. Give a lot of praise when the child does offer so the child will want to do it again.

