

Sharing v.s. Turn Taking

Sharing is: having 4 cars and sharing 2 with another child, or sharing a bucket of blocks where others can have some too. Sharing is not making a child give up what they have immediately to let another child have it.

Turn taking is: waiting for the opportunity to play with a desired toy. This helps children practice having patience, and eventually understand the greater concept of sharing. Every child has the right to finish playing with a toy then give to another child.

Sharing is a complex concept that children 4-6 years of age start to understand. With support they can learn how this concept works in social situations.

Children should be encouraged to give the toy away when they are through with their play.

Turn Taking is a simpler concept for younger children to grow to understand.

With support from a caring adult children can learn how to wait their turn by singing a song, find another toy to play with, water the flowers, or read a story until the child is finished with the truck.