



Cuyahoga County  
Public Library



## A Shared Understanding: Understanding Sharing!

### TALK

Sharing is difficult because kids see themselves as the center of the world. Let them know you understand: "It is really hard to share the trains, but good friends share so they can have fun together."

Practice "my turn" and "your turn" or "one for me" and "one for you" (i.e. rolling or catching a ball, placing blocks on a tower, pushing numbers on a cell phone, sharing a bowl of pretzels).

Point out that grown-ups have to share and wait turns too (e.g. "There are three people in line in front of me. It is hard to wait, but it will be my turn soon").

Notice and praise sharing, even when it is "easy" (i.e. if you have pizza for dinner and "share" it).

### SING

*One, two, three, four*

*Who's that knocking on my door?*

*Five, six, seven, eight*

*Hurry up \_\_\_\_\_ (the next person whose turn it is)*

*Don't be late (pass the toy, object or give the next person their turn).*

### READ

*You Can Do It, Sam!* By Amy Hest

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See reverse.

## PLAY

Practice adult and child sharing first. It is easier for kids to share with a grown up than with kids!

Play board games with your child, and use "my turn", "your turn" words.

Have a "Share to Care" day. Bake or make something together with your child. Share some with other children, neighbors, grandparents, a teacher, etc.

Before your child has a friend over, say: "Anything that you leave out is something that you and \_\_\_\_\_ will share together so that you can have fun together". Ask your child if anything is "too hard" to share and put those items out of sight. Your child will feel more in control and be more successful.

Visit public places where "toys are for everyone to share" (i.e. library, museum, nature center) often. Practice makes perfect!

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