Beginning to Share

Age: Preschool-age (3-4 years)

This activity helps your child's development in this domain: Social-Emotional

What You Need:

Nothing

What To Do:

1. Model sharing by being physically near when your child plays. Offer him a seat next to you as you share items with him that the two of you can play together with in the sand, or allow him to just hide a block in your pocket.
2. Encourage him to share his toys with you by asking questions about them and touching them. If he offers it to you, thank him and hold the toy briefly before returning it to him.
3. Help him practice sharing with others by giving him two of something. Tell him one is for him and the other is for a friend or family member. For example, “This graham cracker is yours and this one is for Tutu. Can you give it to her?”
4. Make each sharing experience a positive one by focusing on the generosity he shows and describing why it was good to share. For example, “Thank you for sharing the graham crackers with Tutu. She was hungry, just like you.”