

LESSON 5

Sharing

Getting Ready

1. Read through the lesson before working with the child.
2. Organize the materials you will need for the lesson:
Progress Chart
Items necessary for completing lesson activities
Pencil or pen for marking charts
Reward badge or other tangible reward
3. Arrange a work space that will best suit lesson activities.
4. Begin working with the child.

Note: Make sure you observe and chart the child's behavior for one week before you begin the lesson. You can then compare the first week's chart with those of the following weeks to determine progress. (For more information on charting, refer to "Monitoring Child Progress" on page 9.)

Directions

Children are often afraid to share, either because others have not shared with them or they fear they may lose their belongings. This lesson provides ideas for helping a child learn to share:

1. Whenever you have a chance, share something of yours with the child. This includes allowing him to use something of yours. It also includes encouraging him to help you do something he enjoys, like cooking, planting a garden, and making repairs. The child will learn from these experiences that you trust him with your things and that you also trust him to do a good job.
2. When he uses something of yours, praise him for holding or using it correctly.
3. When the child starts sharing with you, do not keep his belongings very long. Give them back quickly and thank him. As he becomes more relaxed and willing to share, he won't mind if you keep his things for longer periods of time.
4. Whenever the child shares his possessions with anyone, thank or praise him. "Thank you for letting Sue play with the airplane. She took good care of it. It is very nice of you to share with your friends."



5. Never scold or force a child to share. He will only feel resentful and will be even less willing to share. Instead, always praise him for sharing. Help him feel generous by

sharing your praise with him.

6. Be sure to chart the child's behavior so that you can determine his progress. Use the Progress Chart on page 31.
7. Once the child has mastered the skills in this lesson, give him a reward badge or other tangible reward.

Remember:

1. Notice when the child is behaving.
2. Be specific in your praise.
3. Reinforce immediately.
4. Reinforce small steps.
5. Follow the three steps for teaching.
6. Be consistent.
7. Ignore misbehavior.
8. Create a "quiet area" and use it when necessary.
9. Set conditions.
10. Make effective demands.
11. Reason with the child only when he is behaving.

C:(Is playing with a new truck.)

A:That's a nice truck. May I look at it?

C:(Reluctantly.) Well . . . okay.

A:(Takes the truck and admires it. Gives it back after a few seconds.)

Thank you for sharing with me. I liked looking at your truck.

Example 3: Not forcing the child to share.

C:(Is playing with new doll.)

A:You really like your new doll, don't you?

C:Uh, huh.

A:I can tell you like it because you take such good care of it. May I hold it for a minute?

C:No!

(Hugs doll closely.)

A:(Casually.) All right. Maybe you'll want to show it to me later.

Adult Dialogue

The skills to be taught in this lesson will vary from child to child. For this reason specific adult dialogue is not included. A few examples, however, are provided which demonstrate adult interactions with children in a variety of situations:

Example 1: Sharing with the child.

A: I'm going to make some cookies now, Jimmy. Would you like to help me?

C: Yes! Can I lick the spoon?

A: Certainly!

A&C: (Measure ingredients together.)

A: You're really measuring carefully. I'm glad you're helping me today.

Example 2: Sharing for a short time.

