

Positive Peer Interactions

Preschool



Preschoolers...

- Look to adults for connection and encouragement.
- May demonstrate independence and leadership with peers.
- Like playing simple games and can wait for their turn.
- Enjoy engaging in back and forth interactions with peers.
- Begin to develop elaborate play scenarios with peers.
- Understand how to share.
- Are beginning to generate solutions to common classroom problems.
- Are beginning to identify other people's feelings and how to support them.



Adults can support preschool peer interactions by...

- Modelling and narrating your own use of friendship skills.
- Giving positive descriptive feedback to children demonstrating social skills.
- Planning opportunities for children to work together and help each other in play.
- Planning activities that practice sharing and turn taking.
- Spending time intentionally learning about friendship skills (e.g. puppet shows, books, etc.)
- Setting up the learning environment in a way that promotes peer interactions.
- Planning cooperative activities. (e.g. art projects, games).
- Encouraging children to be aware of and care about their peers.
- Use visuals and modeling to support generating solutions to common classroom problems.