

# Positive Peer Interactions

## Toddlers



### Toddlers...

- Are beginning to recognize others' feelings, facial expressions and body language.
- Like to talk and use words to communicate.
- Enjoy hearing songs and stories.
- Enjoy helping with simple tasks.
- Enjoy imitating peers, adults and various sounds.
- Like to show affection to peers and adults (e.g. gives hugs and gentle touches)
- Begin to recognize themselves and others in pictures.
- Are beginning to play cooperatively with peers.



### Adults can support toddlers peer interactions by...

- Modeling turn taking in your interactions when talking.
- Encouraging caring and showing comfort to others in distress.
- Planning opportunities and simple games for children to play cooperatively with toys and materials.
- Staying close to assist with peer interactions.
- Modelling your own use of friendship skills (e.g. caring and helping).
- Sing songs and read stories about being friends.
- Documenting the children in your room demonstrating positive peer interactions.
- Helping children understand their peers' interactions.
- Providing visuals and verbal guidance to support peer interactions.