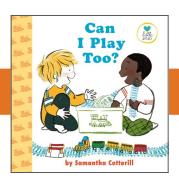
Early Literacy Tips, Activities & More









# tales' tip

Social skills take a long time to develop, with sharing and turn-taking appearing around age 4. Help children learn to share by teaching them how to say, "Can I have that when you're done?" (or just "Done yet?"). When a child has finished PLAYING, prompt her to give the toy to the asking peer. By experiencing both ends of the transaction, your child learns about turn-taking. (adapted from PBS Kids)

## activity

Visit a park or playground. Bring a ball as a way of finding new friends!

Something as simple as rolling or throwing a ball back and forth helps children connect with one another.

Grownups should help the kids introduce themselves by name and show them how to take turns.

# digital fun

5 Ways Kids Can Be FANTASTIC Friends

by Scholastic

https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=3HTteSDuTNQ

**Big Hid** by Roisin Swales

**Should I Share My Ice Cream?** 

by Mo Willems

**Bookie & Cookie** 

by Blanca Gómez

#### A Perfect Day

by Sarah S. Brannen

## PLAY

Gather some real or pretend dishes and some real or stuffed friends for a tea party!

"Playing tea party is a way for children to work on important social skills, like thinking about the needs of others and taking turns."

(PBS Kids)

## TALK

Reading books that feature positive models of friendship is a good way to introduce and teach friendship skills. When reading, pause to TALK about friendship skills and give children opportunities to act out scenes from the story that include these skills.

(adapted from Brookes Publishing)

### SING

#### Look After Your Friends

(tune: Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star) If your friends are feeling blue, There are simple things to do.

Spread some kindness, give a hug. Friends will smile from all your love.

If your friends are feeling blue, There are simple things to do.

Other verses for middle section:

...Tell a joke and make them smile, Laugh together for a while.

...Help them talk or cry it out.

When they smile, you'll want to shout!

## WRITE

Draw and color a new set of friends on paper! Using writing tools helps get kids ready to write in school.

Once the puppets are completed, they can be used to act out playtime situations like sharing a toy. Kids are sometimes more open to learning social skills through role play.