

Turning Challenging Moments Into Positive Play

Replace Competition with Initiating Play with a Peer

Challenging Moment

When a child wants to get a toy or object, and a peer wants the same object.



When children's hands are both full they are less likely to swat, grab, or push away a peer who wants the same toy.

A Strategy to Try: *Grab 2, Give 1*

Hand the child two other objects (one for each hand), and provide a binary choice, "Which one will you give to <peer's name>?"

What Happens

The child...

- has a concrete way to start an interaction with matching objects.
- learns a physical (vs verbal) method of initiating play. This is particularly helpful for a child who is resistant or struggles to use verbal communication with peers.
- may experience social motivations as a result of being exposed to modeling and their shared interest in the matching objects.



Learning Seeds is an educator-led social benefit company dedicated to making inclusion work for preschool-aged children. To transform children's social trajectories, we create individualized social emotional learning for preschoolers via personalized, actionable, job-embedded coaching for early childhood staff.

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