



Sharing Materials



Sharing is a basic social skill that is the foundation for many interactions. People often first learn to share space with other people by playing near them, sitting by them, etc. Then, people learn to share materials, toys, equipment, etc.

Sharing “materials” is important throughout our lives. Even as adolescents and adults, we have to hone our skills at sharing things in order to be kind, courteous and a good friend or colleague.

However, some individuals with social or behavioral challenges may have difficulty sharing. It may require some “structure” to help a person with a disability understand why they have to share, what they have to share and for how long they have to share it.

The use of a “sharing contract” and contingency reward system can be very effective. This tool encourages the use of the skill and may also be used as a motivational technique.