

Teachers Promoting Emotional and Social Competence in Young Children

Teacher-Child Social Coaching: Child Developmental Level 1

Teacher-Child Play: Teachers can use social coaching in one-on-one interactions with their students to help them learn social skills and emotional language before they begin to play with peers. A great deal of the child's learning will occur by modeling and by your descriptive commenting, which will enhance your student's language skills as well as help them recognize their social skills.

Social/Friendship Skills	Examples
Teacher Models:	
❖ Sharing	"I'm going to be your friend and share my car with you."
❖ Offering to Help	"If you want, I can help you with that by holding the bottom while you put another on top."
❖ Waiting	"I can use my waiting muscles and wait until you're finished using that."
Suggesting	"Could we build something together?"
Complimenting	"You are so smart in figuring out how to put that together."
❖ Behavior-to-Feelings	"You shared with me. That is so friendly and makes me feel happy."
	"You helped me figure out how to do that. I feel proud that you could show me that."
Teacher Prompts:	
❖ Self-Talk	"Hmm, I really wish I could find another piece to fit here."
	"Hmm, I'm not sure I know how to put this together."
❖ Asking for help	"Can you help me find another round piece?"
	"Can you share one of your cars with me?"
Teacher Response: ❖ Praise child when s/he shares or helps you	"That was so helpful and friendly to share with me."
Ignore or model acceptance when child does NOT share or help	Continue to use descriptive commenting.
	"I can keep trying to find that round piece." (model persistence)
	"I can wait until you're finished playing with the cars." (model waiting)
	"I know it is hard to give up that car, so I will wait to have a turn later."
Puppet or Action-Figure Models:	
❖ Entering Play	"Can I play with you?"
	"That looks like fun. Can I do that with you?"
❖ Being Socially Friendly	"I'm being friendly. I'd like to play with you."
❖ Ignoring Aggression	"I want to play with a friendly person. I think I will find somebody else to play with."