

My Turn, Your Turn

Target age group: Preschool children with autism, all developmental levels

Objective: To encourage turn-taking as preparation for social language

Materials needed:

- Beanbags, one for every two children
- Taped square on floor, one for every two children
- Taped line for children to stand on, one for every two children
- Small treats as a reward

Instructional strategy:

1. Discuss the idea of taking turns and why it's important for everyone to get a chance to play.
2. Split children into pairs with a teacher or paraprofessional helping each pair.
3. With an aide, model the game for children. Pick up the beanbag and stand with your feet on the taped line. Throw the beanbag into the taped square. Walk over to pick up the beanbag. Give it to the aide and say "Your turn." Receive a small treat.
4. Instruct children to take turns throwing the beanbag with their partners, ensure each child gets a small treat after saying "Your turn."

Accommodations:

- For non-verbal children, simply handing the beanbag to the other child is sufficient.
- Some children may require hand-over-hand guidance to learn this activity.