



Lesson Time

Your child is learning how to join others in play. Children are learning these steps for joining others in play:

- Wait and watch what others are doing and then say, “That looks like fun. What are you doing with the \_\_\_\_\_?”
- Give ideas for play that help them join.
- Ask, “May I play too?” in a friendly voice.

Knowing how to join others in play helps your child feel included and have a sense of belonging.

Play Time

Play a game with your child to practice coming up with ideas for play. Use simple kitchen items or toys your child already has. Choose one or two items or toys to play with at a time.

Say: **We’re going to play What Can We Play? We will take turns thinking of ideas for playing with these things. I will go first. Let’s be cooks and mix up a cake with this bowl and these spoons.** Play for a few minutes. Then ask: **What is your idea?** Play together for a while. Continue taking turns coming up with ideas for playing with other items.

Story Time



This week’s story is about Allison. She wants to join some other children in their play. Ask your child about this story.

- Point to the left-hand photo and ask: **What do you see in this photo?**
- **How is Allison feeling?** (Wanting to play. Curious. Alone. Lonely.)
- Point to the right-hand photo and say: **Allison is now playing with the other children. What do you think she did to get to join in?** (Watched what the children were playing. Talked about it. Gave an idea for their play. Asked if she could play too.)

**Now let’s pretend you are Allison and I am one of the other children. What can you say to join in our play?** (That looks like fun. You could use the shovels. May I play?)