

FACT SHEET:

Category:
Life After ABI
Parenting

Audience:
Person with an ABI

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ABIOS Manager



ABIOS

Acquired Brain Injury Outreach Service

Developing the Skill of Sharing

Introduction

Sharing is important so a child can be socially skilled. However, this is not a skill that a child is born with. It is a learnt behaviour. Parents with only one child will need to provide opportunities for their child to experience sharing. This tip-sheet looks at ways to encourage children to share.



When is sharing a problem for my child?

- When there is often fighting during shared playtime
- When a child is often stating they own a toy even though they are not using it

How to prevent problems with sharing?

- Model sharing yourself
- Provide times when you play with your child or children.
- Model and supervise sharing of toys and games.
- Provide opportunities to practice sharing
- Praise your child when they are sharing
- Have realistic expectations about your child's ability to share. For example a 2 year old will need to be taught how to share and any attempts at sharing should be praised. A primary aged child should have a good understanding of sharing and be able to share without too much difficulty.
- Respect the need children have to have time on their own.
- Understand that not all toys are to be shared. Some toys are special to your child or are unsafe for younger children. They may be used at other times.



