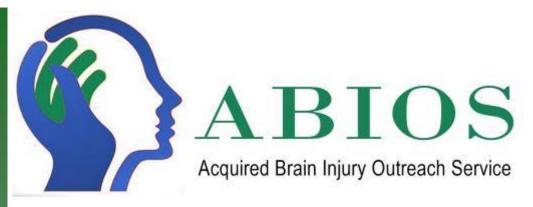
FACT SHEET:



Category: Life After ABI Parenting

Audience: Person with an ABI

For more information contact the Acquired Brain Injury Outreach Service (ABIOS)

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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.

How to manage when your child is not sharing?

• Praise your child for sharing. Gradually expect your child to become more skillful at sharing. Praise toddler's attempts at sharing and older children's skill in sharing



- If they are not sharing, use 1-2-3 time-out. You may need to use it with one child or both children depending on the situation. If unsure, use 1-2-3 time-out with both children as generally both children will have contributed
- If the fighting continues you may need to remove what is causing the problem

Key Points

- Treat all children equally and fairly
- Model and supervise sharing opportunities
- Respect the need for the child's time alone
- Respect your child will have some 'special' toys that are not suitable for sharing
- Use 1-2-3 when sharing is problematic.
- Remove the toy if sharing continues to be a problem

Acknowledgement:

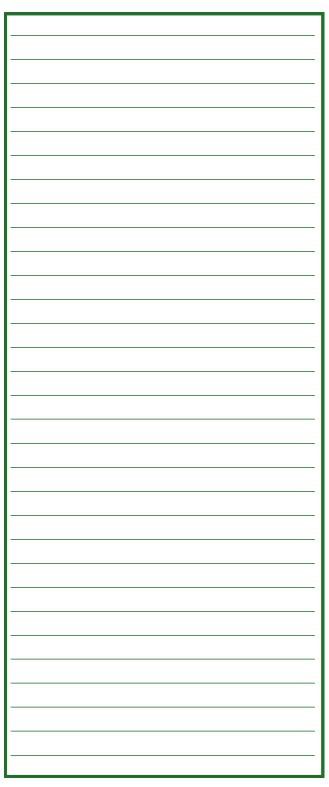
We acknowledge that in the development of the ABIOS Parenting fact sheets we have incorporated ideas from the 1-2-3 Magic Program and The Triple P program.



Resources

See other Acquired Brain Injury Outreach Service (ABIOS) Information sheets at <u>http://www.health.qld.gov.au/abios/</u>

Notes:



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