



CONNECT TO THE CLASSROOM

Back & Forth Play

Toddlers enjoy being active participants in their play. During the toddler 1 video, the teacher listens to the child and follows his lead as they play with toys. The teacher uses back and forth play to teach the toddler how to take turns. As the teacher listens and follows the toddler's lead, he is learning that he matters and that he can get others interested in his lead. He is also learning how to interact and play with others.

Practice applying the key concepts demonstrated in this activity on your own:

- Play back and forth games and activities by modeling and participating
- Respond promptly and sensitively
- Listen and follow the child's lead

When you are finished, reflect on the following questions:

1	What activity or game did you choose to play? How was it helpful in using this strategy?				
2	What was the toddler's reaction to your back and forth play? Was this what you expected? Why or why not?				
3	What more could you have done to help the toddler play back and forth?				
4	What could you do differently next time?				