



## Teachers Promoting Emotional and Social Competence in Young Children

### Child-Peer Social Coaching: Child Developmental Level 3

**Children Who Initiate Play:** Young children move from parallel play to play where they are initiating interactions with each other. They are motivated to make friends and are interested in other children. Depending on their temperament, impulsivity, attention span and knowledge of social skills their interactions may be cooperative or at times conflictual. Teachers can help promote social skills during peer play by prompting and coaching them to use skills or by praising and giving attention to social skills.

Teacher-Coached Skills	Examples
<p><b>Social/Friendship Skills:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Asking in a Friendly Voice (polite, quiet)</li> <li>❖ Giving Help to Friend</li> <li>❖ Sharing or Trading</li> <li>❖ Asking to Enter Play</li> <li>❖ Giving a Compliment</li> <li>❖ Agreeing with or giving a Suggestion</li> </ul>	<p>“You asked your friend so politely for what you wanted and s/he gave it to you, you are good friends.”</p> <p>“You helped your friend find what s/he was looking for. You are both working together and helping each other like a team.”</p> <p>“That’s so friendly. You shared your blocks with your friend. Then she traded with you and gave you her car. ”</p> <p>“You asked kindly to play and they seemed happy to have you join in?”</p> <p>“You gave a compliment to her, that is very friendly.”</p> <p>“You accepted your friend’s suggestion. That is so cooperative.”</p>
<p><b>Self-Regulatory Skills:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Listening to What a Peer Says</li> <li>❖ Waiting Patiently</li> <li>❖ Taking Turns</li> <li>❖ Staying Calm</li> <li>❖ Problem Solving</li> </ul>	<p>“Wow you really listened to your friend’s request and followed his suggestion. That is really friendly.”</p> <p>“You waited and asked first if you could use that. That shows you have really strong waiting muscles. ”</p> <p>“You are taking turns. That’s what good friends do for each other”</p> <p>“You were disappointed when s/he wouldn't let you play with them but you stayed calm and asked someone else to play. That is really brave.”</p> <p>“You both weren’t sure how to make that fit together, but you worked together and figured that out – you are both good problem solvers.”</p>
<p><b>Empathy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Behavior-to-Feelings</li> <li>❖ Apology/Forgiveness</li> </ul>	<p>“You shared with your friend, that is so friendly and makes her feel happy.”</p> <p>“You saw that she was frustrated and helped her put that together. That is very thoughtful to think of your friend’s feelings”</p> <p>“You were both frustrated with that but you stayed calm and kept trying and finally figured it out. That is real teamwork.</p> <p>“You were afraid to ask her to play with you, but you were brave and asked her and she seemed really pleased that you did.”</p> <p>“That was an accident. Do you think you can say you’re sorry?” Or, “Your friend seems really sorry he did that. Can you forgive him?”</p>