



## **Social Communication: Social Interaction 6 [SI6]**

**Child combines gesture and/or vocalization/verbalization with looking at person to show wanting a game to continue**

### **Purpose**

- To encourage your child to ask for games and activities by using higher level ways of communicating; one step beyond their current level.
- To encourage your child to look at you while also using gestures such as pointing, using sounds, using word approximations (such as “ba” for “ball”), or words.

### **Description**

This occurs when the child combines some type of gesture, such as pointing or reaching, and/or uses vocalizations while looking at that person to indicate that they want to continue a game or activity that has paused. This illustrates that the child is beginning to understand how to engage another person and that there is some shared enjoyment during a particular activity.

- Child looks up at an adult and pulls their hands to indicate that they want to be twirled again
- Child drops a ball in someone's lap and looks at them to indicate that they want to play catch again
- Child says "1, 2, 3, GO!" while looking at their teacher to indicate that they want to race again
- Child looks at the teacher and vocalizes because she wants to be squirted with the hose again during water play



## Activities

- *Outside Time: Ring-around-the-Rosie* - Begin a game of ring-around-the-rosie then stop. Wait for your child to start the song and dance and encourage your child to use a higher level way of asking to restart the game. For example, coach your child to look at you and say “play” or “more.” You could also try a chase game - When it is your turn to chase and catch your child, pause for several seconds and encourage your child to ask to continue the game.
- *At the Park:* While pushing your child on a swing, grab the swing and hold it to stop the swing. Wait for several seconds to see if your child will look at you and tells you that they want to swing (using gestures or words).
- *Play time - ball:* When playing a ball toss/roll game with your child and it is your turn, hold the ball for several seconds before tossing and encourage your child to request or gesture for the ball.
- *Tickle games:* When playing tickle games with your child, take a couple turns, then stop. Wait and encourage your child to look at you and vocalize or gesture to show wanting the game to continue.
- *Songs with gestures:* Row your Boat- Begin by facing your child and putting your hands out to hold her hands. As you start singing the song, gently push your body forward toward your child and then pull her arms back in a rowing motion. Pause often to give your child a chance to request through pulling your arms to row while looking at you.

## Strategies

- *Take one turn and wait* – begin a preferred social game with your child, then pause and make faces and gestures to encourage your child to request more
- *Be animated* – use silly sounds, gestures, and faces to engage your child in a social game, then pause until your child gestures and looks at you for more

## Suggested Toys

- Ball
- Stuffed animals
- Toy animals/dinosaurs
- Play phone
- Dolls/action figures
- Spinning toys



## Goal Mastery

An ASAP Goal is mastered if your child meets ALL of the following criteria:

- Shows the skill at least three times
- Shows the skill during different activities or in different settings such as during snack time, during playtime, or at the grocery store.
- Shows the skill with minimal help or support from an adult