



## **Social Communication: Joint Attention 1b [JA1b]**

**Child gives objects just to share interest in the objects with another person**

### **Purpose**

- To encourage your child to give objects to you or another person with the purpose of sharing interest.

### **Description**

This occurs when the child gives an object of interest to another person for the purpose of sharing the object, and the child looks at the other person and the object during the giving process. Giving objects to another person to share the object shows that the child is beginning to understand that s/he can engage with another person and an item of interest through the gesture of giving.

- While writing with a vibrating pen, the child gives the pen to an adult, just to share interest in the novel item.
- The child looks through a kaleidoscope and then gives it to a peer to share in the interesting toy.

### **Activities**

- *Playtime:* While playing with your child, comment on an object your child is playing with and ask if you can see it. For example, if your child is playing with a puppet, say something like, “Oh, his fur looks very soft!” and then put your hand out and say, “Can I see your puppet?” Once your child gives you the puppet, examine it for a few seconds, comment again (“His fur is so soft!”), and then quickly give the puppet back to your child.



- *Cooking:* While cooking with your child, show your child something you have or something you have made. For example, you might say, “Look at this big spoon.” Then ask to see something interesting they have or that they have made. For example, if you and your child are making cookies, say, “Can I see your cookie?” After getting the cookie from your child, say something about it (“I like those sprinkles!”), then return the cookie to your child.
- *Bath Time:* While your child is taking a bath, comment on items he is holding (washcloths, toys, bath crayons, etc.) and encourage your child to show it to you by asking for it or gesturing with an open hand.
- *Meal Times:* When your child is having a snack or a meal with you and your family, ask about what he or she is eating. Be silly and say things like “Oh my goodness, are you eating a book?” This may encourage your child to laugh and show you what he or she is actually eating.

## Strategies

- *Imitate your child’s actions and communications* – imitating what your child is doing may draw his/her attention to you and encourage him/her to give you something
- *Wait with anticipation* – make facial expressions and gestures (i.e., hold your hand out) to show your child you are waiting for them to give you something.
- *Follow your child’s lead* – pay attention to what your child is playing with, comment, and join in on his/her play. This may encourage your child to give you one of his/her toys.
- *Give your child a model* – give interesting objects to your child (as for Joint Attention Goal 1a) as you interact
- *Use follow-in directives* – Using your child’s interests and/or items your child is playing with, direct your child to give items to you and/or another person

## Suggested Toys

- Spinning toys
- Kitchen toys
- Bath toys/boats
- Books
- Sand 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