



Social Communication: Requesting 2 [RQ2]

Child pulls/pushes a person's hand towards objects to show request for help

Purpose

- To help your child to learn to pull or push your hand to an object to let you know that s/he needs help with the object.

Description

This occurs when a child is having difficulty with a task (e.g., opening a container) and pulls another person's hand toward the task to get help. Pulling someone's hand to request help shows that the child is beginning to understand that people can help with difficult tasks, and that s/he can communicate to get help.

- Child needs help operating a toy and pulls another person's hand to the toy
- Child pulls another person's hand towards the faucet in order to get help turning on the water
- Child pulls person's hand toward the radio to indicate they want it turned on

Activities

- *Meal Time:* Give your child food in containers that s/he can't open. For example, give your child a juice box without a straw or crackers in a container with a screw-on top. Wait for him/her to ask for help by pushing/pulling your hand/arm.
- *Brushing Teeth:* Give your child the toothpaste tube with the lid on so that s/he has to ask for help.



- *Dressing:* Let your child try to put on clothing that h/she may need help buttoning or zipping so that s/he has to ask for help.
- *Playtime – bubbles:* Use a bubble gun that your child can't operate without help and hand it to him/her to take a turn. Wait for him/her to ask for help.
- *TV/DVD Watching:* Give your child a DVD or hand them the remote control and wait for him/her to ask for your help to start a movie or show.
- *Everyday Routines and Activities:* Anytime you give your child an object or toy that s/he can't use without your help. Make sure that it's a toy/object that your child will not be able to use until s/he gets your attention and asks by pushing/pulling your hand/arm to help operate it.

Strategies

- *Translate your child's actions, feelings, and intentions into words – “narrate”* with simple words what your child is doing while playing and/or asking for something (“oh, you want ___”; “You're mad. You need help with ___.”)
- *Quick response:* Once your child pulls/pushes your hand/arm to get help, be sure to help him/her immediately.
- *Act like your child's behavior is asking you for help –* when your child pulls/pushes you to the object that he/she wants (or wants help with), act like he/she is asking for your help and give your child the object (or help with the object immediately).

Suggested Toys

- Spinning toys
- Wind-up toys
- Dolls/action figures
- Boxes
- Stacking cups

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