Autism Northern Ireland's Autism Charity

Turn Taking

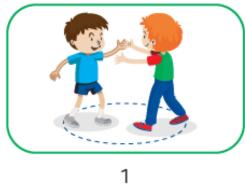
Turn taking is important for:

- Developing listening skills
- Developing expressions
- Developing social interactions
- Understanding the rules of conversations



The use of a visual turn taking board can help your child understand the concept of turn taking and developing those important skills listed above.

The turn taking visuals can use their names, photos of themselves, favourite characters, shapes etc to show who will have the next turn.



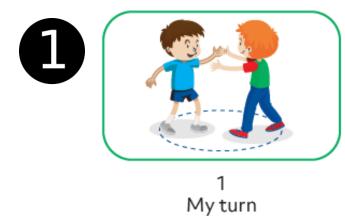
1 My turn



2 Your turn

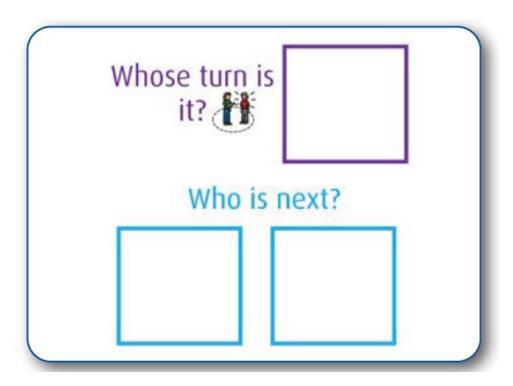


Turn taking visuals





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How to use:

Use Velcro or Blue Tac to stick turn taking visuals to the turn taking chart.

The top box on the turn taking chart will represent the person who is about to take a turn and the bottom boxes represent whose turn it will be next.

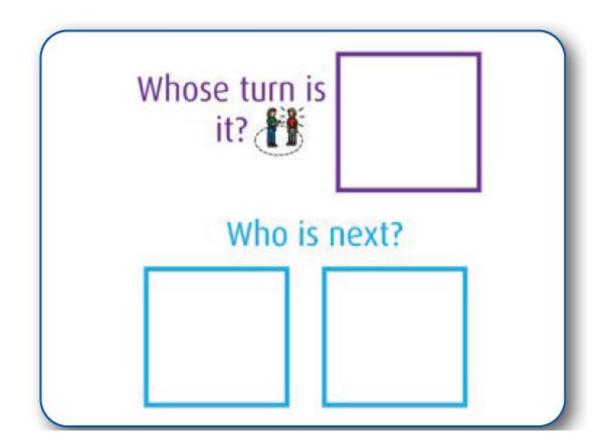
This can help promote turn taking, patience and can help with preparing for a change about to happen.

How to use the visual board:





- When first introducing the turn taking board use only 2 pictures (2 people), this will mean your child does not have to wait long for their turn.
- Gradually introduce more players as your child becomes more confident with the concept of turn taking and waiting their turn.
- When the turn is over, place their picture into the 'who is next' box.
- On the first few times using the board with your child, you might have to have a quicker turn so your child is not waiting too long and gradually build up their waiting time.

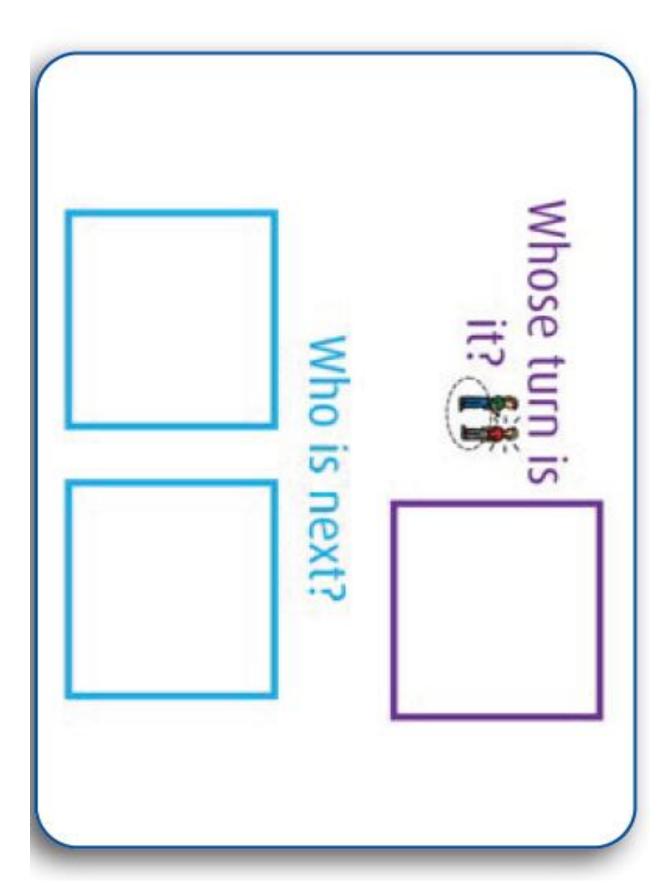


Turn Taking Visuals











Examples of Turn Taking Games





Hoop and beanbags: Each person has equal number of beanbags. Each person will take their turn to throw the beanbag into the hoop. The winner is the one with the most beanbags in the hoop.



Chalk Shapes or numbers: Throw a beanbag into the shape or number which is called. "Can you throw the beanbag into the circle?" Each person will take a turn to throw their beanbag.



Skittles: Using a beanbag or ball, take your tur in trying to knock over the skittles.



Scavenger hunt: Take your turn with another person to try and find all the items on the scavenger list.



Snap: Each person takes a turn trying to match the cards.



Kim's Game: Using items in your house, hide them under a blanket or towel. One item is removed. Each person will have a turn to guess what item is missing.



Examples of Turn Taking Games





Snakes and ladders: Take turns to roll the dice and move your pieces up the board.



Noughts and Crosses: 2 player game. Allow your child to choose to be an X or O.



Puzzles: Use puzzles to help build turn taking skills. Allowing one person to put a piece of the puzzle down at a time.



Baking: Use the turn taking visuals to help your child see when it is their turn to put the ingredients in the bowl and when it is their turn to mix.



Once you child understands how the visuals work you can then use it in the home to help your child see when it is their turn in everyday activities, i.e., to see whose turn it is to choose what to watch on T.V, play the PlayStation, choose where to go for a walk etc.