

FUN & EASY SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES

Try these activities with your 4-year-old—a great way to have fun together and support your child's social-emotional development.

Introduce a new feeling each day, such as bored. Use pictures, gestures, and words. Encourage your child to use a variety of words to describe how he feels.

Encourage activities that involve sharing, such as building with blocks, coloring with crayons, and playing dress up. Teach your child how to ask a friend for a turn. Give your child a lot of time to play with other children.

Take your child to the library for story hour. She can learn about sitting in a group and listening to stories.

Take your child to the store, a restaurant, or the library. Explore new places. Talk with her about how people are alike and how they are different.

Provide opportunities for your child to be creative. Empty containers, glue, newspapers, rubber bands, and magazines can be used to make new inventions.

Make puppets out of Popsicle sticks by gluing on paper faces, adding yarn for hair, and so forth. Put on a show about two children who meet and become friends.

When doing housework or yard work, allow your child to do a small part on his own. Let him empty the wastebasket or clean crumbs off the table.

Use stuffed animals to act out an argument. Talk first about how the different animals are feeling. Then, talk about different ways to come to an agreement.

