

Sharing is Caring

When you were little you probably did not like to share your toys. You might not have even understood what sharing meant. As a toddler you knew that your toys were yours and you didn't want anyone else to play with them. Why should you? They were yours, after all. However, as you get old you learn more about kindness and being good to the people around you. This is what sharing is all about. **Sharing** is when you have something that someone else needs or wants and you offer to let them use your items.

Sharing your things and offering help to people that need it is something known as **good citizenship**. All people should strive to be the best citizens they can be. If your neighbor needs a pencil and you have an extra one you should offer to give them your spare. This will help them and they will remember the favor you did for them. Chances are, they will make sure to help you when you need help.

Some children do not like to share. You might know some children that will have enough supplies, but if someone needs them they will never offer to help. These types of people are called **selfish**. A selfish person only thinks of themselves and never looks out for the people around them. You should not let this type of person bother you. If you want to be a good citizen you should ignore the fact that there are selfish people and if they need help you should still help them.

Sharing is something that you do to make yourself feel good as well as the person needing your help. It shows the people around you that you are a good person and that you are mature and understanding of the needs of others. This means you are an excellent citizen.

Sometimes sharing does not mean letting someone borrow something to use alone. Instead of borrowing something you might share by **taking turns**. When you take turns you and a friend get to use the same toy or instrument for a certain amount of time and pass it back and forth. For example, if you and a friend were playing house you might say the first time you get to be the mommy and the next time your friend does. If you are playing at your house you should always offer to let your friend go first because that is the polite thing to do. If you are in school you should take turns when doing something you both want to do.

If you are the person that needs to borrow something from a friend you should be considerate when asking to borrow whatever you need. You should never just grab something from your friend or take something from someone without asking for it first. If the person says no you should thank them anyway because at least they considered letting you borrow their property. Chances are if you are responsible and take care of things the person you asked will let you borrow their things. However, if you are reckless with your own things your friend may not want to let you use their things because they may think you will break them.

Name_____



Date_____

If you are like most children you probably have a special toy that you have had since you were a baby. It might be a special baby blanket or maybe a teddy bear. It could even be something new that you just got for your birthday that you have already grown quite attached too. These are things you do not have to share.

Everyone has one or two things that they want to keep all to themselves. This is fine and perfectly normal. You should not feel bad that you do not want to share your special items. Just explain to the person why they cannot borrow your special item. It is not expected that you share everything only the things that are not overly special to you or personal in nature.

Things you might end up sharing:

- Pencils
- Paper
- Glue
- Books
- Candy/Gum
- Balls and other basic toys

Things you probably wouldn't share:

- Your special items
- Hair Brush
- Tooth Brush
- Homework
- Underwear
- Shoes

Name _____



Date _____

Sharing is Caring Worksheet

1. Sharing is a part of what?

- A. Citizenship
- B. Borrowing
- C. Stealing
- D. Nothing

2. The following things are things you may or may not want to share. Please list share or not share on the line beside the item.

- A. Pencil _____
- B. Hair Brush _____
- C. Special Toy _____
- D. Baby Blanket _____
- E. Paper _____
- F. Homework _____
- G. Gum _____

3. When you are asking to borrow something from someone what is something you should never do?

- A. Ask Nicely
- B. Grab the item and Run
- C. Take the item without asking
- D. Both B and C

4. What two types of people do not know how to share?

- A. Selfish people and Teachers
- B. Lunch Ladies and Principals
- C. Babies and Selfish People
- D. Babies and Older Brothers

Name_____



Date_____

5. If you are responsible your friend will not let you borrow things

- A. True
- B. False

6. Taking turns is when two people share the same item.

- A. True
- B. False

Name_____



Date_____

Answer Key

1. A

- 2. A. Share
- B. Not Share
- C. Not Share
- D. Not Share
- E. Share
- F. Not Share
- G. Share

3. D

4. C

5. B

6. A

Name_____



Date_____

Exercise

Teachers have the class prepare for a show and tell day. Instead of just asking the children to bring in a special item explain to them that this item should be one of their special items. The day before show and tell have them draw the item they wish to bring in and write a few sentences about what the item means to them. Have them discuss it with the class and inform them the next day they can celebrate by all having their most special possession with them in class.