

I Spy Outside

Primary Objectives

2c. Interacts with peers

Why It's Important

Your child may need some transition time between playing alone and playing with other children. Watching the other children engage in fun activities and talking about them with you could encourage her to join in their play.

Materials

None

What You Do

1. When outside on the playground, observe your child's interest in what others are doing. Notice if she appears eager to join them or if she shows distress when other children are near. While the group plays on the playground, sit nearby with your child.
2. Invite her to play a game with you in which she describes what she sees and you have to guess what it is. Demonstrate how the game is played. *I spy a boy climbing a ladder. He's wearing something blue. Yes! You see James wearing a blue coat. He's going up the ladder and sliding down the slide.*
3. Alternate roles as you play the game together. If your child is preverbal, encourage her to point to something she sees. *You are pointing towards the sandbox. Do you see Jeremiah playing with the big shovels?*
4. If your child appears ready to join the other children, stop the game and encourage her to play with the others. *Would you like to climb up the ladder so you can go down the slide too?*
5. If she shows no interest in the other children on the playground, stay near your child to offer support. Try the game later in a different setting that may interest her more.