

DOMAIN 3: SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT			
SUB-DOMAIN: SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT			
INTERACTIONS WITH PEERS			
GOAL 28: CHILDREN DEVELOP FRIENDSHIPS WITH PEERS.			
Age Range	Developmental Growth	Child Indicators	Caregiver Strategies
Birth through 8 Months	Shows interest in other babies and children.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Initially responds and prefers caregiver's face and voice.</li> <li>▪ Shows enjoyment in interactions with other children by turning toward other children, kicking and reaching, and using gestures, facial expressions, and vocalizations.</li> <li>▪ Gazes at and smiles spontaneously at other children.</li> <li>▪ Responds verbally when interacting with peers (e.g. cooing, laughing, or babbling).</li> <li>▪ Shows interest in other children, visually tracking their actions.</li> <li>▪ Imitates other children's sounds, actions, and motions.</li> <li>▪ Shows awareness that other children are crying or showing distress (e.g. turns toward or away from that child, stares at the child, or cries in unison with the child).</li> <li>▪ Begins to show awareness of feelings displayed by others by matching facial expressions and smiling responsively.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provide opportunities for child to be around other children, including making it likely that the child will see the other child face to face, and be in close proximity.</li> <li>▪ Model positive response to both the child's and other children's sounds, cries, and moods with verbal and facial expressions.</li> <li>▪ Acknowledge the cries, coos, and babbles of all of the children in a group, verbally describing what babies are doing.</li> <li>▪ Respectfully imitate child while playing in give and take interactions and describe the interactions to other children in the setting.</li> <li>▪ Make a variety of facial expressions and allow time for the child to mimic or respond to the expression (e.g. happy, sad, excited, and surprised).</li> <li>▪ As you provide care, talk about the child's expression of emotion (e.g. happy, interested, hungry, sad, sleepy).</li> <li>▪ Point out features and behaviors of babies and older children as the infant looks at or hears them.</li> <li>▪ Post pictures of babies and their families in the childcare program classroom. Talk about the children in the pictures.</li> <li>▪ In child care settings, verbally acknowledge when children arrive and depart, saying their names and the names of the people bringing them or picking them up.</li> </ul>