

Snapshot of Brian

Brian is a 2-year old who is not yet imitating familiar actions by taking turns repeating his own actions or sounds. His parents describe him as an independent and curious toddler who tries to figure out things out on his own. Rather than watching his father show him how to play with a preferred toy, a car spiral ramp, he plays with it on his own, learning primarily through observation of cause and effect whether his actions are successful in making interesting things happen. Currently, much of his play involves sensory-motor exploration, such as spinning car wheels. His parents recognize his need to imitate Brian's actions, create turn-taking opportunities, and learn to use the car ramp and other developmentally appropriate activities.

At bath time, Brian parents want a learning activity that will also distract him from washing which is sensory overload for him. The home visitor wants Brian to do more imitation and vocalization.

One of Brian's favorite activities is playing in his backyard in a sandbox. He likes watching the sand sift through his fingers and to drag a toy shovel to make patterns in the sand. Brian's parents think that this would be a good place for learning turn taking.

(Adapted from SCERTS, Vol II, p. 97)