

## General Guidelines for Setting up Peer Play

- Organize
  - This is the key to success for setting up peer play!
  - Choose 1-2 peers at first.
  - Choose preferred, but not obsessive, activities for your child.
  - Limit the play area and activities.
  - Keep the time short at first.
  - Start at home before going out in the community.
  - Keep the activities fun and interactive.
  - Have all materials ready and accessible to limit down time.
  
- Prepare your child
  - Provide visuals (written or pictures) indicating that friends will be coming over. Provide information on how long, what activities, and reward.
  - State specific expectations for while the peers are there.
  
- Prepare the peers
  - Provide information about your child if he/she is unknown to peers.
  - Provide information on autism and how the peers can interact best.
  
- Reward
  - Have a reward for your child and for the peers. Tell them all that this is "for playing nice and being friends" (or something like that).