

## COLLECTING DATA ON SOCIAL SKILLS

This data collection system is especially helpful for children that have difficulty socializing with peers in the classroom. Staff should use this data sheet if they: a) are contemplating adding the social skills curriculum to their classroom to get a baseline reading of the child's skills before intervention, as well as to gauge how much the strategies affect the child's social efforts after training; b) have a child with a lot of social IEP goals/objectives; and/or c) want to compare typical peers with a child you suspect may have some deficits socially and otherwise.

When collecting this data, rate each category on a scale of 1 through 5, with 5 representing the most occurrences of that behavior throughout the majority of the day. It may be helpful to fill in these rating sheets at the end of class time, after you have had the opportunity to observe the child across different activities. You can "graph" this information by connecting the circles across days within each category.

There are five categories that the evaluator needs to think about and circle the number that most represents the child for that day. The categories and definitions are as follows:

- 1) **Giving Object on Peer Request** = Child gives object to a peer by either putting it in his/her hand or simply giving it up, after one or two requests by the peer.
- 2) **Accepting Object Handed by Peer** = Child holds out hand for peer or takes object from peer as opposed to ignoring peer's offer or throwing the object back at the peer.
- 3) **Visually Attends to Peer During Play** = Makes eye contact with peer, watches peer or imitates peer, does not look around the room or attend to other toys, peers, etc.
- 4) **Appropriately Accepts Peer Assistance** = Does not become distressed at peer's assistance or try to push peer away, but instead allows assistance, imitates peers, or becomes involved in positive interaction.
- 5) **Follow Simple Peer Directions** = Follows a direction that is easily understandable and is easy for the child to comply with after a reasonable amount of time.