

# Social Strategies Smash Mat

Have 6 small balls of playdough ready. Ask the child(ren) to **identify one of the activities: Fist bump, Hurray Song, Group Row Your Boat song, Hello Everybody song, Someone is Hiding song and Cooperative One Potato game**. Once a child finds the picture s/he was asked to (provide help if needed), label the picture and give the child a ball of playdough to “smash flat” on the picture. \*Provide help finding the picture and label it for the child if needed. \*Then, together as a group do the activity.



Fist bump



Hurray song



Group Row Your  
Boat song



Hello Everybody  
song



Someone is Hiding  
song



Cooperative One  
Potato game

\*These songs/games are to be played together. Once a child has found the picture s/he was asked to find, given the playdough to smash flat on the picture and smashed it flat on the picture, the adult leads the child(ren) in the activity or song. These activities can be done at a table or sitting on the floor. One child and adult can be doing the social smash mat (and activities) together or an adult and a group of children can be doing the mat as well. For the turn-taking songs/games: Hurray Song, Someone is Hiding Song, Cooperative One Potato Game, the adult leads the activity and makes sure everyone (including him/herself) has a turn.

### **Explanation of Picture Activities:**

Fist Bump Activity: When a child (or adult) identifies the fist bump picture (upon adult request) and flattens the playdough on the picture, everyone turns to the child(ren)/adult on both sides of him/her and gives him/her a gentle **fist bump**. The adult can explain the activity model it. If an adult and child are playing alone, they give each other a gentle fist bump.



Group Row Your Boat Song: Once the “Row Your Boat” Song picture is identified and playdough smashed on the picture, everyone joins hands and as a group sings and rows their big boat side to side. The lyrics are:” **Row, row , row your boat, gently down the stream....Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily, life is but a dream.**” (You can row the boat fast/slow, etc.)



Hello Everybody and How are You? Song: Once the “Hello Everybody and How are You?” Song picture is identified and playdough smashed on the picture, everyone playing waves hello and then the adult facilitates the singing of: “Hello Everybody”. The lyrics of the song are: **“Hello everybody and how are you, how are you, how are you? Hello everybody and how are you? How are you today? Hello...(child’s name), Hello..(another child’s name), Hello (another child’s name) (continue naming each child and as well him/herself) and how are you today?”**



For the Someone is Hiding Song: Once the “Someone is Hiding” Song picture is identified and playdough smashed on the picture, the adult holds the scarf or transparent blanket up in front of the child who smashed the picture. The group sings: “Someone is Hiding” and then the adult gives every child a turn behind or under the scarf/blanket. The adult can take a turn as well. The lyrics to the song are: **“Someone is hiding, hiding, hiding, someone is hiding, who can it be? Peek-a-boo, I see you...peek-a-boo, I see (child’s name).”**



Cooperative One Potato Game: Once the Cooperative One Potato Game picture is identified and playdough smashed on the picture, the adult leads the group in the game. The adult has a bean bag or a soft ball that will be used for the game. The child (adult) who picked the **Cooperative One Potato Game Fish** will hold and pass the bean bag (soft ball) first. The adult leads the game. The words of the game are: **“One Potato, two Potato, three potato, four, five potato, six potato, seven potato more”**. The bean bag (soft ball) is passed from person to person as each number is called. Whoever has the bean bag (soft ball) at seven potato more, turns and gives a high five/fist bump to the child(ren)/adult on both sides of her/him. Repeat the game a couple of times.



The Hurray Song: Once the Hurray Song picture is identified and playdough smashed, the adult gives the child a pom pom to shake (if one is available. The song can be sung without it if necessary). The adult leads the group in the **Hurray Song**. After the first child (adult) has her/his turn shaking the pom pom during the song, s/he will pass it to the child (adult) beside her/him and so it continues until everyone has a turn. The lyrics to the song are: **“Hurray for (child’s name), Hurray for (same child’s name), someone in the crowd is singing hurray for (same child’s name), 1,2,3,4 who are we for, (same child’s name), that’s who!”** (Child named in the song is shaking the pom pom)

