

Age: 6-18 months

Skills: fine motor, language, gross motor

Materials: variety of age-appropriate toys and safe infant/toddler storage containers

Play Time Exploration



Parent Tip: Young infants and toddlers enjoy a variety of materials that they can hold and manipulate. They need a variety of sensory materials to explore that are safe and easy for them to find. The challenge is to make enough interesting things available for your child to explore, but not so many that the environment is distracting or overwhelming.

Activity: Place a variety of different toys in safe storage containers. Put the containers of toys in rooms that you and your child spend time in, and let your child have the joy of exploring all the items in each activity container. Infants and toddlers enjoy finding the containers over and over again. Change the toys around from time to time. You can place three to four containers in rooms that the family spends the most time in. Be sure to always keep a watchful eye on

Age: 18 -24 months

Skills: communication, fine motor, personal-social

Materials: family photos and photo album

Family Photo Album Fun

Parent Tip: Read to your child everyday! Let the child select the book from the ones you have available and you will soon discover their favorite books.



Activity: Young children enjoy looking at pictures of themselves and family members. Take time to look at family photographs with you child this month. Ask them to point to the family members as you name them. Let the child flip the photo album pages, as you tell short stories about each picture.

Age: 24-36 months

Skills: Gross motor, fine motor, social, language, math

Materials: red, white, or blue crepe paper, scissors, music or sing a song

Music Wave

Parent Tip: Toddlers love to move and sing. This activity encourages movement and parent child interactions.



Preparation: Cut out crepe paper strips that are 10" long. Cut out enough for everyone in the family to get at least one strip of crepe paper.

Activity: Give your toddler a strip of paper, and everyone else in the family who is doing the activity with you. Show your toddler how to wave it around, up and down. Have them put the paper up high and then down low. Sing a song with them or play some music and move the crepe paper as you move. Move the paper slow and move it fast. Your toddler will learn basic concepts as you do this activity such as up/down, high/low, slow/fast. Have fun!

Age: 3,4, & 5 Year-Olds

Skills: Gross motor, fine motor, math, language, social

Materials: clear twist on soda bottles, different colors of tissue paper, medium size ball

Color Bowling

Parent Tip: Pre-school age children will be able to take this game outside and play it with their friends. Encourage your child to invite a friend over for summer color bowling and some snacks.

Preparation: Stuff a different color of tissue paper into each of the empty soda bottles. Set up the bottles.

Activity: Show your child how to set up the game, let them help you. Demonstrate how to use the ball. Once the child has knocked down some bottles, have them count how many they have knocked down. Also let them name each color in the bottle. Set up the activity again and play together.

