

Games to Play with Babies

Dump and Fill Game For infants 9 months and up



Babies are learning all about their world through play. Even the simplest activity provide and opportunity for babies to learn something new. A favorite activity of babies is "dump and fill". Through his activity, babies are practicing their fine motor skills, learning how to pick up and release objects, and exploring the shape and feel of new materials!

Take a sturdy shoe box and cover it with a colorful contact paper. Make sure that the cover of the shoe box can be put back on the box with ease.

Fill the box with new and interesting objects or fabrics. Make sure the materials are safe, have no loose parts and are too big for a baby to swallow.

Show the baby how to take the materials out of the box and then put the materials back in the box.

Give the baby time to explore the materials and objects in the box. The baby may hold the materials, mouth the materials, or bang the materials together.

Games to Play with Toddlers

Lets Pretend

Toddlers love to imitate the world around them. They could be a lion one minute and then a Mommy or Daddy feeding a baby the next. Providing props to their play will enhance these experiences.

You could have:

Hats: sunhats, top hats, baseball, construction, fire hats, winter any type that may spark their interest

Old clothes that the child for the can get on and off

Purses, shoes, slippers

Baby dolls, wash cloths, empty baby powder containers, empty baby soap and shampoo containers, bibs, bowls, spoons, empty food containers

Crowns, wands, gloves, old dance recital outfits, capes

Sunglasses, beach ball, towels

Aprons, mixing bowls, measuring spoons and cups, chefs hat, menus, plastic table settings, small table cloths

Old overalls, tool belt, plastic tools, toy cars and trucks, cardboard box for a garage

Child sized patient gowns (or old button down shirt), toy Dr. kit



When you child is engaged in pretend play, get involved with him/her become the patient/Dr., the Daddy, or the Queen. Talk to your child and pretend right along with them.