



Communication

Activities to Help Your Toddler Grow and Learn



Your toddler enjoys being with you and is learning new words very quickly. She is using her language more often to let you know her wants, needs, and ideas. She can carry on a simple conversation and may talk to herself or pretend to have a conversation with a stuffed animal. She can follow simple directions and loves to read books. She likes to hear the same book read over and over!

I Spy In the car or on the bus, you can play "I Spy." You say, "I spy with my eye a green truck." Then your child tries to find what you spied. Now it is his turn to spy something. Remember to "spy" things your child can see from his car seat. You might also try "I hear with my ear." Listen for sounds such as a motorcycle, a car horn, a bird singing, a dog barking, or a radio.

Picture Album Make a little picture album with pictures of your child and people and pets he knows. Have your child talk about the pictures and name the people and pets. Ask your child, "Who's that?" "What are they doing?" Look at this book over and over. Help your child learn to say her first and last name.

When You Were Little Tell your child stories about when he was little: "When you were first born..." or "When you were a little baby..." Your child will love to hear these stories again and again.

Dinner Report At the end of a busy day, let everyone talk about his or her day. Ask your child to tell others in the family what she did during the day. Let her take her time. You might remind her if she forgets some events. Soon she will learn to tell what happened in the right order. Praise her for remembering so much.

Washing a Baby Let your child wash a baby doll in a plastic tub, or bring a baby doll into his bath with him. Name the doll's body parts as he washes the baby: "You're washing the baby's feet." Praise your child for taking such good care of his baby.

What's that Sound? Turn off the TV and radio, and listen with your child to sounds around the house. Listen to the refrigerator motor, wind chimes, a clock ticking, or people talking. Ask your child to tell you what she hears. Try this at night. Listen for the night sounds of crickets and frogs.



24-30 months