CHILDREN'S PLAY

ENGAGING YOUR CHILD IN MEANINGFUL PLAY

- Important for growth and development.
- Your presence and guidance shape their world of wonder and discovery.

SIMPLE YET POWERFUL WAYS To play and learn

- Enjoy books and songs for language and communication skills.
- Discover joy in everyday items for imagination and creativity.
- Your involvement is a cherished gift, more impactful than toys.



PLAYTIME THROUGH DIFFERENT AGES

INFANCY:

- Water play: safe exploration with plastic bottles and sponges.
- Begin love for reading with soothing voices and picture books.

TODDLER YEARS:

- Crayon adventures for self-expression.
- Imaginative conversations with craft sock puppets.

GROWING INDEPENDENCE:

- Dress-up fun with safe materials, avoiding loose cords.
- Balanced screen time with discussions about content.

SUPPORTING GROWING MINDS:

- Creative art using recyclables and glue.
- Prioritize safe toys with appropriate age recommendations.
- Mind small batteries for choking and burn hazards.

INCLUSIVE PLAY FOR ALL CHILDREN:

- Customize play for special needs (textures, interactive toys).
- Adapt toys for safety and strength.



INFORMATION ADAPTED FROM NHS WEBSITE, AUGUST 2023

 $\underline{www.nhs.uk/conditions/baby/babys-development/play-and-learning/baby-and-toddler-play-ideas}$

FURTHER INFORMATION

happybabycommunity.org.uk

