



2022-2023 Toy & Activity List

Infant & Toddler



Compiled by Stacey Szklut MS, OTR/L & South Shore Therapies Staff

Infants and toddlers learn naturally through sensory exploration, interaction, and play. A wide variety of toys and activities help develop sensory-motor skills and encourage learning. The following suggestions will be helpful in choosing appropriate toys to target developmental skills while keeping your child engaged. Many items can be purchased at toy stores or through catalogues and websites such as Amazon. Frequently, specific brand names have been provided, but you can often find similar items of another brand. Ask your occupational therapist for help in deciding which games or toys are recommended for your child.

Birth - 12 months

What to look for:

Toys that.....

1. Are easy to hold
2. Promote tummy time
3. Have soft materials, varied textures
4. Provide high contrast for visual interest
5. Offer reaching and mouthing opportunities

Infant Toys:

- Foot finder socks and wrist rattles (Baby K)
- Flip fish soft baby toy (Melissa & Doug)
- O-ball classic ball
- Smily Mia penguin buddy
- Sophie the giraffe and Sophie the giraffe teether
- Soft silicone fruit teether set (Nearbyme)
- Animal Spiral Crib and Travel Toy
- Zoo winkels bee (Manhattan Toy)
- Maracas-set of 2 (Fisher Price)
- Baby's music carnival (Edushape)
- Hide and seek discovery ball (Lakeshore)
- Winkel ball (Manhattan Toy)
- Pipsquigz loops (Fat Brain Toys)
- Baby whoozit (Manhattan Toy)
- Wimmer Ferguson learning cube (Manhattan Toy)
- Rock a stack baby toy (Fisher Price)
- Infant musical stuffed caterpillar (Sumobaby)
- Tummy time pillow, crinkle mat & teethers (Teytoy)
- Tummy time baby mirror (Beetoy)
- Tummy time water mat
- Infant crawling crab (Baby Toys)
- 9 in 1 musical turtle toy (little Tikes)



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12 - 18 months

What to look for:

Toys that.....

1. Encourage eye hand coordination
2. Promote standing and movement
3. Foster the concept of cause-and-effect
4. Provide beginning opportunities for problem solving
5. Develop fine motor skills of holding, banging, shaking, and releasing

Toddler Toys:

- InnyBin (Fat Brain Toys)
- Roller blocks tumblin' zebra (Fisher Price)
- Pop-Pop piano (Mirari)
- Tap a tune baby drum (Little Tikes)
- Pop up school bus
- Tumble Top Giraffe Spinning Toy (Playskool)
- Poppitoppy ball popper
- Musical barn activity cube (Histoye)
- Busy ball popper toy (Playskool)
- Pound and roll toy (Battat, Montessori)
- Wooden 2 in 1 musical pound a ball (Young Explorers)
- Tobbles stacking toy (Lakeshore, Montessori)
- Zoom & vroom ladder launch crane (Fat Brain Toys)
- Fun time tractor (Young Explorers)
- Spike the dinosaur (Montessori)
- Lets go fishing playset (Lakeshore)
- Pop-up pals (Playskool, Battat)
- Shapes and Sharing Picnic Basket (Leapfrog)
- Toddler tunnels and tents
- Enchanted friends learning table (Fisher Price)
- Forest friends' discovery tree (Fat Brain Toys)
- Walk, bounce, ride on pony (Fischer Price)
- Whistle stop grow with me train (Young Explorers)
- Walk and learn walker (Fisher Price, Young Explorers)
- Toddler shopping cart (Melissa & Doug)
- Little People Big Yellow School Bus (Fisher Price)





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18 - 24 months

What to look for:

Toys that.....

1. Support simple pretend play
2. Expand on the concept of cause-and-effect
3. Promote movement through the environment
4. Encourage more refined eye hand coordination
5. Develop fine motor skills of opening, closing and placing into a specific place

Toddler Toys:

- Roll & race activity ramp (Lakeshore)
- Wooden race track car ramp
- SpinnyPins (Fat Brain Toys)
- Montessori pull strings learning ropes (Likee)
- Pop the dot books (Melissa & Doug)
- Fine motor forest friends (Lakeshore)
- Leader of the band (Young Explorers)
- Baby's first keyboard piano (Young Explorers)
- Peek a boo learning farm (Learning Resources)
- 3 car garage: shape sorting toy (Battat)
- Spins again stacking toy (Lakeshore)
- 3 piece shape sorter (Battat)
- 20 piece magnetic construction set (Goobi)
- Duplos
- Matching egg set (Kidzlane)
- Unlock the shape sorter house (Battat)
- Link & go magnetic vehicles (Lakeshore)
- Jumbo knob wooden puzzles
- Tool box fill & spill (Melissa & Doug)
- Little people farm (Fisher Price)
- Baby doll with bottle/spoon/blanket
- Laugh and learn toddler toy vacuum (Fisher Price)
- Toddler tunnels and tents
- Small ball pit
- Push and ride racer (Little Tikes)
- Go & grow lil' rollin' giraffe (Little Tikes)
- Up & down roller coaster (Step 2)
- Cozy Coupe (Little Tikes)



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24 - 36 months

What to look for:

Toys that.....

1. *Expand on pretend play*
2. *Introduce the first cooperative games*
3. *Provide opportunities for planning and building*
4. *Promote balance and movement through the environment*
5. *Encourage eye hand coordination away from the body (e.g., throwing, kicking)*

Toddler Toys:

- Pounding bench wooden toy (Melissa & Doug)
- Roll again maze (Fat Brain Toys)
- Town maze magnetic puzzle (Haba)
- Busy board for toddlers (Mornor)
- Oombee Cube (Fat Brain Toys)
- Load up recycling truck (Lakeshore)
- Take along sorting barn (Melissa & Doug)
- Hide & go moo farm animal toy (Learning Resources)
- Wooden stacking train (Melissa & Doug)
- Montessori magnetic fishing game (Smilebank)
- Flower garden building toy (Stem)
- Blocks for building
- Squigz (Fat Brain Toys)
- Simple shape, color and animal puzzles
- Montessori wooden garden toy (Skyfield)
- Beginner pattern blocks (Melissa & Doug)
- Toddler wooden animal jigsaw puzzles (Amazon)
- FAO Schwarz learning letters alphabet board (Target)
- Acorn soup game
- Duck, duck dance game (Mindware)
- Get up for pup game (Mindware)
- Raccoon rumpus game
- Toddler touch light musical doodle board (Crayola)
- Water doodle mat
- My first peg pictures (Lakeshore)
- Kids tool bench
- Let's play house pretend play set (Melissa & Doug)
- Play kitchen
- Wooden play food or cutting food (Melissa & Doug)
- Pet care play set (Melissa & Doug)
- Kids bowling set
- Bean bag toss game (Rabosky)
- Small ball pit
- Harley Davidson or Barbie tricycle (Fisher Price)
- 3 wheel scooter
- The nugget couch



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Play Using Common Household Items:

- Give rides in a laundry basket
- Play at the sink or bathtub with water and toys or textures (e.g. foam soap, finger paint, sponges)
- Make a simple rattle with a toilet paper roll and some beans or rice. Tape the ends
- Tape a paper towel roll to the wall creating a spout. Drop objects into it and try to have them land in a bowl
- Have large, colorful magnets on the bottom of the refrigerator
- Toddlers love to put things in. Provide a variety of options: buckets, shoe boxes, pots, cups
- Poke holes in a shoe box and use large straws to push in and pull out
- Make homemade dough to play with
- Create some music with kitchen pots and utensils
- Cut holes in a yogurt container and use colorful popsicle sticks to push in and pull out
- Make a tactile bin (beans, rice, popcorn kernels, etc.)
- Put strips of painters tape on the wall leaving the end slightly loose. Toddler's will love to pull them off
- Tie one end of a scarf to a laundry basket and have your toddler weave the scarf through the holes
- Place stuffed animals in the laundry basket and use the tied-on scarf to pull the basket and give them a ride
- Keep those delivery boxes: make forts, airplanes, trains, and towers