



Activities



FUN & EASY SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES

Try these activities with your 18-month-old—a great way to have fun together and support your child's social-emotional development.

Your toddler likes to have a regular daily routine. Talk to him about what you are doing now and what will be happening next. Give him time to be active and time to be quiet.

Have a pretend party with stuffed animals or dolls. You can cut out little "presents" from a magazine, make a pretend cake, and sing the birthday song.

Your toddler needs a lot of time to move around and exercise. Go for a walk, visit a playground, or take a trip to a shopping mall.

Dance with your toddler. Make a simple instrument out of a large plastic food tub (for a drum) or a small plastic container filled with beans or rice (for a shaker).

Your toddler will love to help with daily tasks. Give her simple "jobs" to do and let her know what a big girl she is. She can wipe off a table, put her toys away, or help sweep up.

Help your child learn about emotions. Make happy faces, sad faces, mad faces, and silly faces in front of a mirror. This is fun!

Set up playtimes with other children. Your child doesn't understand how to share yet, so make sure there are plenty of toys. Stay close by and help him learn how to play with other children.

Storytimes, especially before naptime and bedtime, are a great way to settle down before sleep. Let your child choose books to read and help turn pages. Help him name what he sees.

