



The Explorer



Thirteen to Eighteen months



Celebrating your baby's first year must be quite a milestone for you!

You must be beaming with pride - look how he has grown! From a reliant baby to a toddler learning to dress and feed himself - it is quite an achievement!

Now is a good time to develop his love for books! He can communicate with you using simple words and identify things in picture books. Bring him out for walks in the parks to let him see more of the world. He'll love to toddle around and explore. His sense of wonder and curiosity will never cease to amaze you!

Have Fun!!



How I Grow

- I can walk well.
- I may even climb stairs by holding your hand and run awkwardly.
- I can make marks and simple scribbles with crayons.
- I am developing self-help skills.
- I have better control at self-feeding.


How I Communicate

- I can use words to gain attention and indicate things that I want.
- I combine sounds and actions to show what I want.
- I can say as many as 20 words.
- I love picture books. I can turn the pages and point to the pictures.



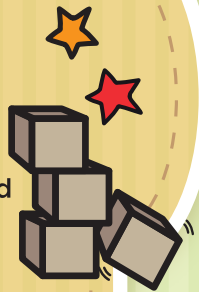
How I Respond (Social)

- I love to help you with chores.
- I may try to comfort another child who is sad or alert you to the crying child.
- I may make sounds or actions that make people laugh.
- I will give you a kiss or hug when you ask me to.
- I learn to give and take toys from you.
- I hug, cuddle and feed my dolls or pets.
- I can play side by side with other children but not together with them.
- I can join in family meals for longer periods.

How I Understand

- I am beginning to solve problems on my own and may do something over and over again to find out how it works.
- I experiment putting different shapes into the shape sorter and finally know which shape goes into which hole.
- I may roll a ball repeatedly and observe what happens. I may push a paper off the table and observe that too.
- I am starting to engage in imaginative play and role-play.
- I can build short towers with blocks.
- I bang blocks and other objects to make sounds.
- I enjoy simple games like 'Pat-a-Cake'.





How I Feel (Emotions)

- I like to imitate adults in dramatic play.
- I am starting to better understand my emotions and that of others. For example, someone cries when he is sad or hurt.
- I may have difficulty controlling my emotions and have tantrums. Be patient with me.





How I Grow

- Set up safe obstacles for me to overcome, such as tunnels, cushions and climbing blocks.
- Bring me to parks and beaches where I can run on the grass and sand.
- Always be there to support me.
- Arrange activities that allow me to use my hands and fingers to explore.
- Provide me with thick markers or crayons to scribble with or percussion instruments like shakers, drums to make 'music'.
- Provide me with opportunities to practise self-help skills such as washing my hands.
- Show me how to comb my hair, and keep my toys so that I will learn to do them myself.



How I Communicate

- Acknowledge my efforts every time I use words to indicate things.
- Gently correct me if I have mis-named any object.
- Ask me simple questions to encourage me to reply. I may nod my head or repeat the answer after you. (Yes, apple)
- Introduce me to a variety of new words by pointing out and naming the people, places, things and activities that we see together every day.
- Play games that involve giving me directions: **Roll the ball to me!**
- Read and sing frequently to me.



Yes!

red

apple

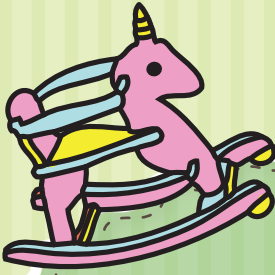


How I Respond (Social)



- Involve me in daily chores. Let me do simple tasks such as picking up my toys after play time.
- Let me express my affections for you. Allow me to kiss or hug you.
- When playing with me, practice turn-taking. Let me hold the toy first before asking it from me. Then, offer the toy back to me for me to take from you.
- Encourage me when I hug, cuddle and feed my dolls and pets. Remind me to be gentle.
- Encourage me to share my toys and play with other children.
- Set a space for me at the dining table during family mealtimes. Let me interact with other family members as we enjoy our food.





How I Understand

- Allow me to carry out the same activities over and over again. Repeated practice will help me develop my skills and understanding.
- Provide me with additional challenges once I have mastered a skill. For example, when I learn how to throw a ball, encourage me to throw it further.
- Engage me in simple games with hand movements and action rhymes.

How I Feel Emotional

- Participate in my play. If you see me carrying a pot, ask: ***“Are you going to make soup?”***
- Provide me with objects to play with that are used in daily life. (E.g. toy pots and pans, toy telephones, etc.)
- Read simple books about feelings to me. Try to link what we are reading with what I am experiencing.
- Stay calm during my tantrums and try not to react to them. This will help me to calm down faster too.
- Show me you love me – through words, smiles, hugs, kisses and play.

