

# BABY BYTES

For families with infants and young children

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## Toys for Infants

From birth, babies learn by looking, listening, touching, smelling and tasting. By selecting a rich variety of sensory play toys, parents can match their baby's learning style.



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### DID YOU KNOW???

- Holding your baby, rocking them and singing are the greatest gifts you can give them.
- Play is the "work of children" and you are the most important toy in your child's world.
- When you join in your child's play, you help your child to explore and discover their world.
- Attaching a musical mobile to the crib or change table can provide your baby with interesting sights and sounds.
- Infants can only focus on objects that are fairly close to their eyes in the first three months.
- Toys should be placed about 8-14 inches away from your child's eyes.

Source: *Invest in Kids; Comfort Play and Teach, April 2010*

**"LIKE CLOTHES, GOOD TOYS NEED TO FIT!"**



## AGE APPROPRIATE TOYS FOR INFANTS (BIRTH TO ONE YEAR)



Toys that may be used when your child is on their back or tummy could include:

- \* Mobile
- \* Musical toys
- \* Crib mirror
- \* Soft fabric toys with differing sounds and textures
- \* Fabric dolls or animals with easy-to-grab limbs

Toys that may be used when your child is in an upright position (sitting) could include:

- \* Rattles and teething toys
- \* Washable dolls and animals
- \* Musical toys and songs
- \* Soft fabric ball
- \* Rolling toys or vehicles
- \* Blocks
- \* Bath toys
- \* Cloth or sturdy cardboard books
- \* Pots and Pans
- \* You are your baby's favorite toy!



## SAFETY TIPS

- Save the beautiful baby blankets and play mats with ribbons, pearls and many other small objects for decoration.
- Remember not to leave your child unattended when in the bathtub. Never rely on bath support devices to keep your baby safe.
- Small foam balls are not safe for an infant. Small pieces may be chewed off and ingested.
- If you use an infant swing, be sure to use constant supervision. Baby swings can collapse and an infant's limbs and neck could become entrapped.
- Stuffed animals left in the crib could cause suffocation.
- To prevent choking and strangulation, mobiles should be removed from the crib by 5 months or whenever your child can reach out.

Source: [www.safekidscanada.ca](http://www.safekidscanada.ca)

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Prepared by The Simcoe County Infant and Child Development Program  
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