

BABY BYTES

For families with infants and young children

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.



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

July 2019

Prepared by The Simcoe County Infant and Child Development Program
For more information please call 726-9082 ext. 2281