



Building Blocks to Brighter Futures

Resources to Help Make Sure All Our Kids are "AOK"

Social and Emotional Development of the Infant

0 to 3 months

What Baby Does

Cries

Smiles

Coos

Looks at faces

Listens to voices



What Parents Can Do

- Pick up and sooth crying baby
- Hold and cuddle baby
- Talk and sing to baby
- Smile at her/him
- Read to baby

Holding, touching talking & playing with your baby makes him feel loved and secure.

3 to 6 months

What Baby Does

Warm smiles and Laughs

Shows excitement

Can be comforted, even by
sound of Parent's voice

Likes to be near special persons

Takes turns making sounds with adult

What Parents Can Do

- Share baby's smiles and laughter
- Pay attention to baby
- Respond to baby's coos and cries
- Hold baby when feeding
- Play lovingly with baby

Your baby may babble and then pause, waiting for you to talk. Repeat the sounds he makes and wait for him.





6 to 9 months

What Baby Does

Plays "Peek-a-boo"
Responds to own name
Enjoys a daily routine
Unsure of strangers
Comforts self



Play Peek-a-boo
It helps your baby to trust.
He does not see you, but now he does.

What Parents Can Do

- Say nursery rhymes to baby
- Talk to baby in a gentle voice
- Be predictable and consistent
- Watch and learn what baby wants and needs
- Read with baby
- Take pleasure in games with baby

9 to 12 months

What Baby Does

Imitates others
Shows feelings of "happy" "sad" or "mad"
Curious about playthings
Trusts that needs will be met



Baby learns by watching you and then doing what you do.

What Parents Can Do

- Talk, sing and say rhymes to baby
- Encourage baby to explore
- Be responsive, gentle and protective of baby
- Name feelings like sad, happy, mad
- Read books with baby