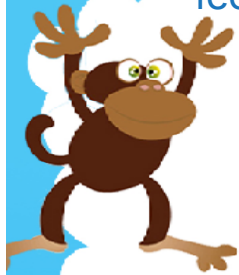




Playing with baby (0 - 8 months)



- Young babies focus best on objects or faces held at about 22cm.
- Stroking soft fabrics, holding soft toys and gentle music all help to feel secure.
- Give babies plenty of time to respond.
- Babies love routine and repetition.
- During everyday care, give the baby suitable objects to feel before using them, such as their vest before putting it on.
- Bubbles are very good for gaining attention or rewarding them.
- Wind-up toys are a great way to encourage looking and reaching.
- Talk gently while you play. Baby will respond to the sound of your voice.





Sure Start Children's Centres

Hartlepool



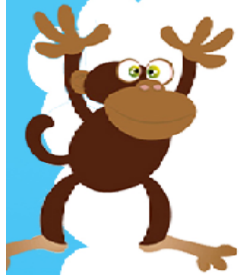
- Clapping and playing instruments helps children develop their brains as well as their bodies.

- Clapping and steady beat games help fine motor skills and language development.



- Waving is a difficult process at the start, give plenty of time to respond.

- Make some simple sound makers from plastic bottles and dry pasta.



- Words and movement together strengthen links in the brain. Incorporate movement songs and rhymes as often as you can.



- Babies and young children often point when they want you to name things.

- Make the most of all reflective surfaces for looking at reflections. Try the back of spoons, shiny buttons etc.

- Pointing is a real milestone on the way to becoming an effective communicator. Pointing can mean 'what's that?' 'I want', 'give me', 'it's that one', or 'look at that'. Always use words as well to help language development.



- Some children still take objects to the mouth to explore at the age of three. Stay mindful of choking hazards.



First Contact
and
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01429 284284
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Ref: Little baby books
Heads-up lookers and communicators

To find your nearest children's
centre call: **01429 284284**

