# INFANT EXPERIENCES



## Age Range - 12 mos

#### Hide and search

Hide toys or other baby-safe objects under a towel or blanket while you play together. Encourage your little one to find it and help them if they need it by pulling it out and saying "here it is!".

**How your baby benefits:** This kind of play teaches your baby all about object permanence: Even if you can't see it, it doesn't mean it's gone forever!

#### Words, words, words!

When your baby points to an object, respond by naming the object and talking about it. For example, if they point to a ball, you could say "Do you want your ball? Here is your ball! Let's play with the ball!".

**How your baby benefits:** By naming things that your baby is interested in, you are helping them to learn new words. Paying attention to things they point to also teaches them that their needs matter and helps to build their self-esteem.



### Independent explorer

Let baby explore on their own but stay close by to make sure they are safe. This helps them to feel secure while they're trying new things.

**How your baby benefits:** Allowing your baby to have supervised freedom helps them to build their independence and self-esteem.