

DRAMATIC PLAY IDEAS FOR BABIES

<https://www.whattoexpect.com/first-year/play-and-activities/pretend-imaginative-play-babies-toddlers>



Dramatic Play Toys for Infants:

- Dolls
- Soft Animals
- Pots and pans
- Toy telephones



How to encourage pretend play: 0-24 months

Babies and younger toddlers might not yet have the capacity to imagine themselves as a dinosaur or doctor. But they can still participate in social play and practice taking on different roles.

Have rollicking conversations with your infant and invite her to explore different objects in her surroundings. As she reaches her first birthday, shift the focus to modeling the actions and behaviors she'll learn as a toddler — like introducing herself to new people and sharing toys.

- **Have a chat.** Imitate the sounds that your baby makes, or talk with her and give her a chance to answer. She might respond by squealing, cooing, moving her arms or legs, and eventually smiling!
- **Play peekaboo with objects like scarves and tea towels.**
- **Sit your baby in front of the mirror and let her explore it.**
- **Encourage exploration.** Give your baby age-appropriate objects in various sizes, colors and texture to safely explore. Infants who aren't yet mobile can play on their tummies or in a seated position, while older babies can crawl or cruise over to different objects.
- **Sing action songs.** Songs and rhymes like [Patty-Cake](#), This Little Piggy, the Itsy Bitsy Spider and invite participation with their corresponding actions. Your baby will delight in watching you make the moves early on, and eventually, she'll join in the fun.

This activity relates to the following measures on Infant/Toddler DRDP: Curiosity & Initiative in Learning-ATL 4; Identify of Self in Relation to Others-SED 1, Cause and Effect-COG 8 and more.