



ClassForKids®



# THE **PERFECT** ACTIVITIES

for Your Baby & Toddler Club





# Hi **Baby and Toddler** Club Trailblazers!

**Ready to sprinkle some magic into your sessions and watch those little ones light up with joy?** We've got just the ticket! A well rounded baby and toddler group needs to bring a variety of activities to the table. If you're stuck looking for activity ideas for your own toddler club or mother and baby group, here's a list of fun and engaging activities to try in your sessions!



# Emotional Development

The emotional development of kids is a super important life skill that they can work on in your baby toddler groups. So, what are some examples of activities that promote the emotional development of babies and toddlers? Dive into the feels with these heartwarming activities:

## Emotion-Focused Story Time

Get ready to dive into tales that tug at the heartstrings. Use story time to convey the emotions of fictional characters and discuss the emotions throughout. This activity is great for older toddlers especially, but even simply discussing emotions openly is great for all ages.

## Emotion Flashcards

Use flashcards to teach the kid's the facial expressions that come with different emotions. Let the children identify the emotions displayed, such as happiness, sadness, anger, and surprise and turn learning emotions into a playful game.

## Empathy Building Activities

Engage toddlers in activities that promote empathy and understanding of others' emotions. How? Try some role-playing scenarios where toddlers become the heroes and comfort a crying doll or stuffed animal. It's empathy in action!



# Language Development

Let's put the "fun" in language fundamentals! If you want to help children in your groups to develop their language skills, try the following activities in your sessions:

## Language Games

Play games that involve naming objects, identifying colours or shapes, or matching pictures with words, turning it into a linguistic adventure! For example, you can hide objects around the room and ask toddlers to find them based on verbal cues.

## Sing-Alongs and Music

Music can be the key to new verbal skills. Singing songs and nursery rhymes with repetitive lyrics helps babies and toddlers learn new words and phrases. Bonus points for adding matching actions or movements that correspond with the lyrics to enhance engagement!

## Narration Games

Have the children perform tasks whilst narrating what they're doing. For example, have them pretend they are walking through the grocery store, picking up items for dinner whilst narrating and telling the other children how they do that. You can also help by asking engaging questions or even encourage the other children to explain what their friend is doing. It's like charades with a twist!





# Practical Learning

**Time to roll up those sleeves and dive into some hands-on fun! Involving activities that allow kids to learn more about situations they may face in the future is both fun and educational. Here's where the real-world adventures begin:**

## Explore the Outdoors

Take the group outdoors to explore playgrounds, parks, or nature trails. Provide opportunities for toddlers to climb, slide, swing, and play in open spaces while interacting with natural elements.

## What's in the Bag?

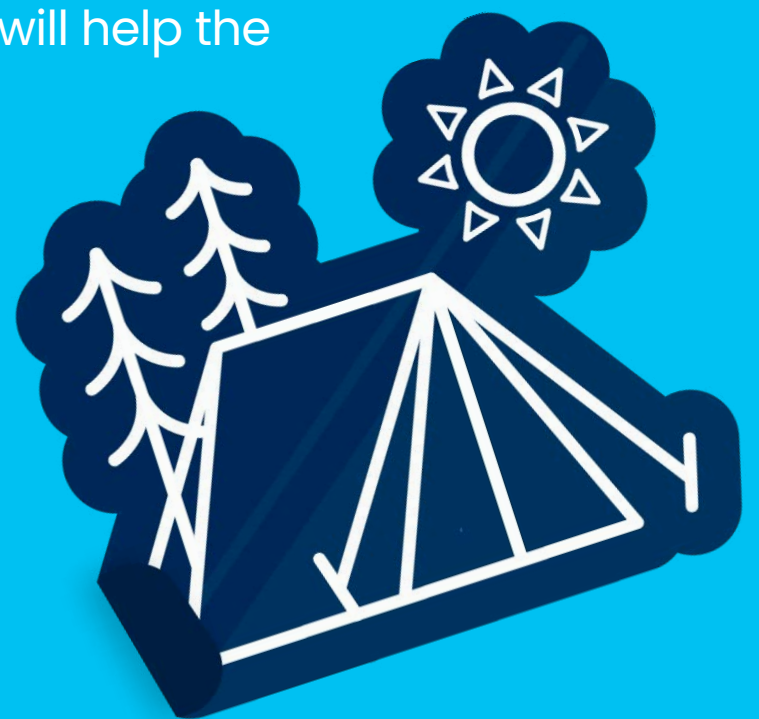
This game is great for many reasons! It's great for sensory learning and for exploration and play too. Simply put some items into a bag and have the children pull the items out of the bag. With babies, try to describe the items and use your voice to keep the baby engaged and encouraged. Explore the item together. For toddlers, try having them describe the item they pull out to the other kids, or ask them questions about the items.

## Tidying Up

Who says tidying can't be fun? Turn clean-up time into a musical masterpiece or a playful game. Have the children practicing tidying up their toys, some clothes, or some plastic dishes. You could even have this be a routine part of your sessions that signals the end of the sessions to the children!

## Copycat

Play a game of copycat and let the children lead your actions. Talk about what you're doing as you copy them, or have the parents in your group do it one-on-one. This will help the kids to understand their actions and develop words for them. Older children may also be able to play this game with each other: in this case you can have one child lead the other's actions. **Try it out with a game of Simon Says!**



# Playful Learning

**Let the playtime adventures begin! Playing is a great way of learning. It lets the children explore in a safe and controlled environment and allows the kids to experiment with language and words, creatively solve problems and can help kids understand another point of view.**

## **Use Soft Toys or Dolls**

Dive into the world of make-believe with cuddly companions! Start out by using larger soft toys or dolls and help create scenarios that the children can easily imagine. For example, pretend that the dolls are going to school or going to the park. This encourages the children's imagination and introduces them to pretend play.

## **Sensory Play**

You will undoubtedly have heard of this activity before, but that's because of how important it is for babies and toddlers to discover the world around them. Set up sensory bins filled with materials like rice, water, sand, or textured fabrics for babies and toddlers to explore with their senses. Add items such as scoops, cups, and small toys to enhance the sensory experience.

## **Puzzle Play**

Challenge those budding problem-solvers with age-appropriate puzzles that'll have them sorting shapes, solving mysteries, and mastering motor skills like pros.



# There You Have It!

And there you have it, baby and toddler club owners! Those are some of the fun and engaging activities you can include in your own sessions. Just remember to keep everything appropriate for the children's ages and switch out activities as you see fit. So, dive in, get creative, and watch those little ones blossom before your eyes!

## Check lists

- ✓ Emotional Development
- ✓ Language Development
- ✓ Practical Learning
- ✓ Playful Learning





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**- Deb, Jolly Babies & Music with Mummy**