



Oh Those Babies!

Shared with you by Lisa Murphy, *the ooey gooley lady*®
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Attachment: the strong emotional bond between a baby and a caring adult who is a part of their everyday life; ideally it is an affectionate and loving bond. Attachment bonds continue to grow and develop over time. A baby can be attached to more than one person and studies show that children benefit from positive attachments to adults who are not their parents. Baby's early experiences and interactions with the main adults early in her life (her attachment figures) will profoundly affect the relationships she has as she gets older; including how she views herself (Honig). A secure attachment allows children to venture out into the world to play, grow, explore and learn. They know that someone they trust and love is looking out for them. Additionally, babies with secure attachments are able to better balance their emotions and are more likely to grow up with strong social skills (Carlson).

Attached babies are playful babies and playful babies have playful parents! Happy parents = happy babies! And happy babies = happy families! Now, we know it's not really *that* simple... but for today we will leave our daily worries at the door and spend some time playing together. And hopefully you will take a few of these games and songs with you so you can continue playing even after our day is over....

Songs, Simple Games and Fingerplays to Play With Baby

Soooo Big!

Ask baby: "How big is baby?"
Gently lift his arms up and say "Soooo big!"

As she gets older she will lift her arms up on her own after you ask.

Bye Bye Game

When leaving the room say, "bye bye chair!" Wave bye to it. Say, "bye bye doggie" and wave to the dog. Start saying bye bye to a couple of items, objects or people in the room each time that you leave. It increases baby's vocabulary.

Banana Phone

Pretend the banana is a phone. Say, “ring ring... banana phone!” Pretend to talk to someone on the banana phone. As baby gets older you can say “ring ring... ring ring... oh, my banana phone is ringing.” Answer it, then pretend it is for baby!

Get Moving

Occasionally put baby’s favorite toy a little bit out of reach so she has to move to get it.

1-2-3-4-5 once I caught a fish alive

1-2-3-4-5 once I caught a fish alive
6-7-8-9-10 then I let him go again
Why did you let him go?
Because he bit my finger so
Which finger did he bite?
This little finger on the right.

Dancing Darlings

Put on some music. Hold baby in your arms and dance.

Choo Choo to Boston

Choo choo to Boston
Choo choo to Lynn
Careful when you get there
You don’t fall in!

What’s in the sock?

Put one of baby’s rattles in a sock. Shake the rattle to make noise. Give the sock back to baby and encourage him to find the rattle in the sock.

Good Morning _____ we’re glad that you are here!

Good Morning Lisa
Good Morning Lisa
Good Morning Lisa
We’re glad that you are here!

Got your nose!

Pretend to “take” your child’s nose with your fingers. Giggle and play together.

Tulle Netting and Foil

If you have access to tulle netting, you can have some of it for baby to touch. It is a good sensory experience for baby. So are big balls of foil.

Baby Doll Washing

Put washable baby dolls in baby's bath or in a small tub of water for washing.

Guess which hand (hide a small toy)

Put a small toy in your hand. Pretend to have your baby pick/guess which hand you put it in.

Hide a small toy under a blanket, sheet or scarf

Play with your baby as you find it together.

Peek-a-Boo

Use a scarf and play peek-a-boo with your baby.

Tongue Tracking

Hold your baby facing you. Once you have your attention, stick out your tongue. Smile and coo at him with your tongue out. Watch how baby starts to copy you!

Silly sounds and faces

Hold your baby on your lap facing you. Make some funny shapes and sounds with your mouth: fish lips, stick out your tongue, open your mouth and eyes wide and say baby's name, blow gentle raspberries... your baby will giggle and copy you too!

I love somebody... yes I do!

With your baby on your lap, clap and sing the following:

I love somebody yes I do
I love somebody yes I do
I love somebody yes I do
I love somebody and I LOVE YOU!

Pillow Obstacle Course

Put pillows and couch cushions on the floor for baby to creep, crawl, roll and climb over and around.

Patty Cake

Patty cake
Patty cake
Baker's man
Bake me a cake as fast as you can
Roll it and roll it
And mark it with a B
Put it on the oven for baby and me!
(sock 'em in the nose)

Paint Crawl

Let baby make crawling prints. Have a "wash bucket" nearby for easy clean up.

Echo Me Echo You

When baby makes a sound, repeat it. Babababa then you say babababa back to baby! Then you repeat until baby loses interest. Then you can offer a new sound, like: mememe, lalalala, gogogog, gagaga, dadada, mamama, or zuzuzuzu! See if baby starts to copy you!

Where is it?

As baby gets older you can ask, "Where's your nose?" and "Where are your toes?" Be patient though and wait for baby to respond!

Mama Mountain

Watch Lisa. She will demo the "pose." Do this often with your baby and be silly with it!

This is the Way the Ladies Ride

Hold your baby on your lap, facing you. (Or you can do "Mama Mountain" pose once she is old enough!) Now, gently bounce her up and down and sing...

This is the way the ladies ride
The ladies ride
The ladies ride
This is the way the ladies ride
Early in the morning
Annndd...

Then bounce her a little bit faster and sing:

This is the way the gentlemen ride
The gentlemen ride
The gentlemen ride
This is the way the gentlemen ride
Early in the morning
Annnddd...

And then faster still:

This is the way the cowboys ride
The cowboys ride
The cowboys ride
This is the way the cowboys ride
Early in the morning!

This Little Piggie

This little piggie went to market, this little piggie stayed home
This little piggie had roast beef, and this little baby had none
And this little baby cried wee wee wee all the way home!!

Whoops Johnny Johnny

Move your finger up down and over the fingers on your other hand and say...

Whoops Johnny Johnny Johnny
Whoops Johnny Johnny Johnny
Whoops Johnny Johnny Johnny
Whoops!

Say it fast, slow, loud and quiet. Watch how your baby will start to mimic your actions.

Willabee Wallabee Woo

Willabee Wallabee Woo
An elephant sat on you
A willable wallabee **Wesa**
An elephant sat on **Lisa!**

Willabee wallabee wommy
An elephant sat on mommy
Willable wallabee waddy
An elephant sat on daddy!

Gimme 5

Gimme 5
On the side
Cut the pickle
Get a tickle!

Activities to Play with Baby

(Many of these are set up around the room for you and baby to explore together)

1. Balls for rolling
2. Blocks for building and stacking
3. Books to read
4. Bubble wrap for jumping, walking and crawling on
5. Bubbles to blow, catch and chase
6. Clothespins for dropping into coffee cans or big cups
7. Contact paper to walk and crawl on
8. Feathers/feather dusters (clean & new) for tickling baby
9. Flashlights to watch, track and follow
10. Ice cubes to touch
11. Keys to jingle jangle
12. Laundry baskets for pushing and pulling
13. Masking tape for peeling
14. Masking tape lines for crawling
15. Nesting cups and blocks for stacking
16. Newspaper for tearing
17. Paper towel tubes to blow through, talk through, roll things through
18. Parachutes
19. Pie tins for banging
20. Ping Pong balls for dropping into coffee cans or plastic cups
21. Pom poms to drop on baby's belly
22. Pots and pans for banging
23. Rainmakers: bottles with holes poked in them for playing with in the bath tub
24. Ring stack games for hand-eye coordination
25. Scarves for tossing, catching, gentle tug o'war and peek a boo
26. Sock balls for throwing or tossing into laundry baskets
27. Straw blowing on babies and at each other
28. Tennis balls and muffin tins for matching and grasping
29. Tupperware for playing, sorting, stacking and putting things in and out
30. Washing baby dolls
31. Wooden spoons for hitting pots, pans and pie tins

Edible Finger Paint

Baby can make a “picture” with karo syrup (corn syrup) and food coloring. If she eats it this will not hurt her. You can also “paint” with applesauce and pudding and colored ice cubes.

Ooblick

Equal parts of water and corn starch

Cooked Spaghetti

Cook spaghetti. Color it with food coloring. After it cools, let baby squish it at the high chair.

Colored Ice Cubes

Freeze colored water in ice cube trays. Pop out a few colored cubes for baby to play with at the high chair. You don't need to color them! Baby will play with regular ones!

Shaker Bottles

Put some of the following in clean, recycled water bottles and hot-glue the lid back on before letting baby roll, shake and explore them!

- Beans
- Colored water
- Colored water and cooking oil
- Curling ribbon
- Glitter
- Rice
- Sequins
- Soapy water

Cooked Playdough

3 cups flour

1 ½ cup salt

3 cups water

6 TBS oil

6 tsp cream of tartar

Mix, cook on low heat until it forms a ball. Remove from heat, knead. Allow to cool before baby plays with it.

Flubber

Mix 2 cups water and 1 cup glue in a big bowl. Add a squirt of food coloring and then stir it up. In a separate small bowl mix together 2 c. water and 4 TBS Borax (get Borax in the laundry detergent aisle. One box of it will last you forever. Keep the box of Borax out of baby's reach). After it's completely dissolved, pour the Water/Borax mixture slowly and a little at a time into the Glue/Water mixture. Pour a little, mix it a little, pour a little, mix a little. Mix with your hands or a sturdy wooden spoon. As you mix, it will become a flubber ball! *NOTE: You might NOT need to use all of this Borax and water solution!!!!*

Suggested Books for Baby

<i>Brown Bear Brown Bear</i>	Bill Martin/Eric Carle
<i>Caps for Sale</i>	Esphyr Slobodkina
<i>Catch the Baby</i>	Lee Kingman
<i>Chicka Chicka Boom Boom</i>	Bill Martin Jr.
<i>Corduroy</i>	Don Freeman
<i>Good Dog Carl</i>	Alexandra Day
<i>Good Night Gorilla</i>	Peggy Rathman
<i>Good Night Moon</i>	Margaret Wise Brown
<i>It Looked Like Spilt Milk</i>	Charles Shaw
<i>Little Blue and Little Yellow</i>	Leo Lionni
<i>More More More Said the Baby!</i>	Vera Williams
<i>Owl Babies</i>	Martin Waddell
<i>Very Hungry Caterpillar</i>	Eric Carle
<i>Where the Wild Things Are</i>	Maurice Sendak

Infant Toddler Workshop Resources and References

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Circle Time Activities for Young Children by Deya Brashears and Sharron Werlin Krull, Gryphon House, 1981.

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