# Baby Play For Every Day: 365 Activities For The First Year

One of the best ways to do this is through play. Play is essential for babies' physical, cognitive, social, and emotional development. It helps them to develop their motor skills, language skills, problem-solving skills, and social skills. It also helps them to learn about the world around them and to develop a sense of self.

This article provides a comprehensive list of 365 activities that you can do with your baby during the first year. These activities are designed to be fun and engaging, and they will help your baby to reach their developmental milestones.

#### **Activities for the First 3 Months**



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Year by DK

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During the first 3 months of life, your baby is mostly focused on eating, sleeping, and crying. However, there are still plenty of activities that you can do to help them learn and grow.

- 1. Tummy Time: Tummy time is an important activity for babies of all ages, but it's especially important for newborns. Tummy time helps to strengthen your baby's neck and back muscles, and it also helps them to develop their motor skills. To do tummy time, simply place your baby on their tummy on a blanket or play mat. Supervise them closely and make sure that they are comfortable.
- 2. Baby Massage: Baby massage is a great way to bond with your baby and help them to relax. It can also help to relieve gas and colic. To give your baby a massage, simply use your hands to gently stroke their body. You can use long, flowing strokes or short, circular motions.
- **3. Sing to Your Baby:** Singing to your baby is a great way to soothe them and help them to develop their language skills. You can sing lullabies, nursery rhymes, or even just make up your own songs.
- **4. Read to Your Baby:** Reading to your baby is a great way to expose them to language and help them to develop their literacy skills. You can read books, magazines, or even just tell them stories.
- **5. Play with Your Baby:** There are endless ways to play with your baby. You can play peek-a-boo, tickle them, or just make funny faces. Playing with your baby is a great way to bond with them and help them to develop their social skills.

#### **Activities for Months 4-6**

During months 4-6, your baby will become more active and curious. They will start to roll over, sit up, and reach for objects. They will also start to babble and make other sounds.

- **6. Gross Motor Activities:** Gross motor activities are any activities that help to develop your baby's large muscles. Some examples of gross motor activities include rolling over, sitting up, crawling, and walking. You can encourage your baby to develop their gross motor skills by providing them with plenty of opportunities to practice these activities.
- 7. Fine Motor Activities: Fine motor activities are any activities that help to develop your baby's small muscles. Some examples of fine motor activities include grasping, reaching, and picking up objects. You can encourage your baby to develop their fine motor skills by providing them with plenty of opportunities to practice these activities.
- **8. Sensory Activities:** Sensory activities are any activities that help to stimulate your baby's senses. Some examples of sensory activities include playing with different textures, tasting different foods, and listening to different sounds. You can encourage your baby to develop their sensory skills by providing them with plenty of opportunities to experience different sensory stimuli.
- **9. Language Activities:** Language activities are any activities that help to develop your baby's language skills. Some examples of language activities include talking to your baby, reading to them, and singing to them. You can encourage your baby to develop their language skills by providing them with plenty of opportunities to hear and practice language.

**10. Social Activities:** Social activities are any activities that help to develop your baby's social skills. Some examples of social activities include playing with other babies, going to daycare, and interacting with family members. You can encourage your baby to develop their social skills by providing them with plenty of opportunities to interact with other people.

#### **Activities for Months 7-9**

During months 7-9, your baby will become even more active and curious. They will start to crawl, pull themselves up to standing, and even take their first steps. They will also start to say their first words and understand simple commands.

- **11. Outdoor Activities:** Outdoor activities are a great way for your baby to explore the world around them and get some fresh air. Some examples of outdoor activities include going for walks, playing in the park, and swimming.
- **12. Creative Activities:** Creative activities are any activities that allow your baby to express themselves creatively. Some examples of creative activities include painting, drawing, and playing with Play-Doh.
- **13. Pretend Play:** Pretend play is a great way for your baby to develop their imagination and creativity. You can encourage your baby to engage in pretend play by providing them with props such as dolls, stuffed animals, and toy kitchens.
- **14. Music Activities:** Music activities are a great way for your baby to develop their musical skills. Some examples of music activities include singing, dancing, and playing with musical instruments.

**15. Water Activities:** Water activities are a great way for your baby to cool off and have fun. Some examples of water activities include playing in the bath, going for a swim, and splashing in a water table.

#### **Activities for Months 10-12**

During months 10-12, your baby will become even more independent and active. They will start to walk, run, and climb. They will also start to talk more and understand more complex commands.

- **16. Gross Motor Activities:** Gross motor activities are still important for babies at this age. Some examples of gross motor activities for babies 10-12 months old include running, jumping, and climbing.
- **17. Fine Motor Activities:** Fine motor activities are also important for babies at this age. Some examples of fine motor activities for babies 10-12 months old include picking up small objects, building with blocks, and drawing with crayons.
- 18. Sensory Activities: Sensory activities are still important for



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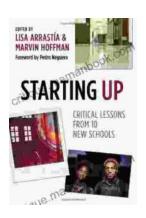
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