



Play Together for the First Time

Offer matching toys and enjoy playing side by side for the first time.

Helps Your Child Grow



Relationships with Other Children

Playing alongside another child with similar toys helps your baby begin to notice, imitate, and enjoy simple peer play.

Steps

- Arrange a relaxed playdate with another family. Place two similar toys - such as two rattles or two soft balls - on a mat so each baby has one.
- Sit close and let the babies explore at their own pace. They may first focus on their own toy, then glance at the other baby, copy a movement, or reach toward the other toy.
- Follow your baby's attention and describe what is happening in short phrases: "You're both shaking your rattles!" or "Look, your friend rolled the ball."
- If either baby reaches for the same toy, gently offer the matching toy or help the babies pass it back and forth. Keep the exchange brief and relaxed.
- Notice and warmly respond to any small social moment - a look, a smile, a sound, or a copied action. These are early ways of playing together.

Tips

- Create regular chances for your baby to spend time playing near other babies. They can enjoy being together even when each one has a different toy.

Observations

- ☐ Watches another child playing with a toy
- ☐ Shakes the bell