



# Picture-Card Discoveries

Name simple picture cards and watch where your baby looks or reaches.

## Helps Your Child Grow



### Emergent Literacy

Looking at simple pictures while hearing their names gives your baby early experience connecting an image with spoken language, a foundation for later literacy.

## Steps

- Choose a few high-contrast cards with simple pictures of familiar things, such as a bottle or cat.
- Show one card at a time and point as you name it: “Here’s a kitty. Meow, meow.” Watch your baby’s response.
- If your baby only looks, show another card and stretch the word slightly: “Booottle.” A reach may show that the picture has become familiar or interesting.
- Hand over the bottle card. Say, “Wow - a bottle!” and pretend to drink with a soft “glug, glug.”
- Finally, arrange all the cards in front of your baby. Follow their hand or gaze as you point, name each picture, or add an animal sound.

## Tips

- Use three to five cards at a time and keep the activity under ten minutes so your baby does not become tired.
- At six months, looking and listening together are enough. Reusing the same cards over time makes their responses easier to notice.

## Observations

- Looks toward the matching card after hearing a familiar name
- Reaches toward a familiar picture card