



The Great Toy Choice

Offer two toys and notice which one your baby chooses.

Helps Your Child Grow



Sense of Identity and Belonging

Freely choosing between toys and receiving your accepting response gives your baby experience expressing a preference and having their decision respected.

Steps

- Around the first birthday, your baby may begin showing clear preferences. Notice whether they repeatedly choose the same toy.
- While your baby plays with a familiar favorite, place a different toy nearby and ask, “Here’s another toy. Would you like to try it?”
- Whether your baby keeps the first toy or turns toward the new one, accept the choice: “Okay - you decided.”
- Across repeated choices, your baby can experience that you notice and respect what they prefer.

Tips

- The new toy is not a test of whether your baby remains consistent. It simply offers a chance to compare and explore.
- Offer toys with different textures, shapes, colors, or functions and notice which features repeatedly hold your baby’s interest.

Observations

- ☐ Chooses one of the toys offered
- ☐ Points toward a toy while making a choice