Better Parenting

Rescue the Ball from the Sock

Try different movements to get a small ball out of a sock.

Helps Your Child Grow



Reasoning and Problem-Solving

Trying and adjusting different actions to remove a ball from a sock gives your child experience solving a simple physical problem.

Steps

- Hide a favorite small toy, such as a ball-pit ball, inside a sock and invite your baby to find it.
- Your baby may squeeze, pick at, or shake the bulging sock.
- Give them time to explore how the ball might come out.
- If several attempts do not work, point out the sock opening, then let your baby continue.
- After the ball comes out, hide it again and offer another turn. Watch whether your baby uses the opening they found before.
- When they succeed, name the strategy: “You found the opening and got the ball out!”

Tips

- After your child succeeds, try a thicker or slightly smaller sock and see whether they reuse the same strategy with the new challenge.

Observations

- ○ Tries several ways to get the ball out of the sock
- ○ Copies how you pull open the mouth of the sock