



Take Care of the Toy Baby

Invite your child to feed and dress a toy baby. Caring for the toy encourages them to remember the familiar sequence of their own daily routines.

Helps Your Child Grow



Imitation and Symbolic Representation and Play

Recreating familiar daily activities in pretend play helps your child turn real experiences into a sequence of care and understand why routines have an order.



Sense of Identity and Belonging

Feeding, dressing, and comforting a toy baby gives your child a playful way to experience caring for someone else.



What You'll Need



Favorite Dolls



Toy Food



Blanket



Doll Clothes

What You'll Need

1. A familiar doll
2. Pretend food
3. A blanket
4. Doll clothes



The Baby Elephant Wakes Up

Pretend that the baby elephant has just woken up and ask your child to take care of it. Follow your family's usual morning routine, inviting your child to help one step at a time. If they are unsure, mention something that normally happens at home as a clue.

Observations

- ☐ Pretends that a toy is food and feeds it to the little elephant
- ☐ Responds to what you say and continues the pretend-play story

Tips

- Offer more clues while the game is new. After one step is finished, you can remind your child what usually comes next.
- Let your child choose any toy as pretend food, then name and describe it: "You gave the elephant a carrot," or "A toy car? Oh, that's too hard to bite!"
- At age two, familiar habits grow through repeating the same order. Add a routine such as brushing teeth and explain why each step matters.



The Baby Elephant Needs Care

As the care routine becomes familiar, add new situations to enrich the story. Some may be new to your child, creating a chance to connect what the toy needs with an action that could help.

Observations

- Moves around the play area to find props for caring for the toy
- Remembers a familiar care routine and covers the elephant with a blanket

Tips

- If your child is unsure how to help, recall an everyday clue: “When we feel cold, how do we choose warmer clothes?”
- When your child covers the elephant, connect the action with its purpose: “The blanket will help the elephant stay warm.”
- An unexpected idea can keep the story going. If your child offers an apple for warmth, pretend the elephant eats it and says, “I have more energy, but I still feel cold.”



A Day with the Baby Elephant

As your child becomes more confident, let them lead the pretend play. If the story repeats or stalls, ask what usually happens next in the day. At bedtime, invite your child to pat the elephant gently to help it fall asleep.

Observations

- Shows familiarity with a daily routine, such as turning off the light at bedtime
- Copies a familiar sequence of actions from mealtime

Tips

- Remembering a routine while caring for the elephant supports skills related to #SE-SIB, while your explanations help your child understand why the family does each step.
- Recall the bedtime sequence together and explain one purpose: “We turn off the light because brightness can make it hard for the elephant to sleep.”
- It is natural for pretend play to stall when your child runs out of familiar experiences. Stay nearby and offer a clue when needed.