

BusyBugs Play and Talk Program

Busy Toddler Activity 2.1. Doing the washing!



Toddlers like to post objects in and out of containers. They also like to practice things and will often do things over and over. This repetition is crucial to their learning!

Adult's job:



Repetition of activities is important. It gives your toddler lots of opportunities to hear the same words being associated with the same objects and actions.

Toddler's job:



By repeating this activity your child will begin to link the words with the objects. Soon your BB will begin to find and point to some of the objects when you ask "Where's the...?"

What you need:

- Washing machine toy
- Doll's clothes or pictures of clothes

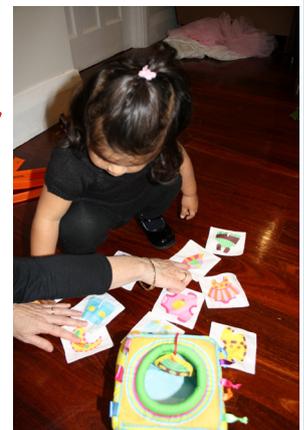


Name the pictures as your BB takes them out.

What you do:

1. Help your toddler take the 'clothes' out of the washing machine.
2. Say the names of the pictures: "sock", "shirt", "bib". Praise your toddler if she tries to copy any of your words.
3. Every now and again, mix up the pictures and say "Where is the sock?" Help your toddler find it and say "Yay! There's the sock."
4. Squeeze the soap onto the clothes. Say "squeeze" or "soap" each time.

"Where's the sock?"



"squeeze"

Adult says:

shirt
wash
open

dirty
in
turn on

soap
out
close door

all clean!
socks
finished

squeeze
more

Keep it simple! Use 1-3 words at a time.

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Busy Toddler Activity 2.2. MYO Washer



1. Grab a box and get your BB to help you give it a quick paint if needed.
2. Cut out a door in the front, and stick on bottle caps for dials.
3. Clean out an old box/bottle of clothes washing detergent. Find a scoop or measuring cup to add it to the machine.

4. Get your BusyBug to help you collect a selection of doll's clothes, and your BusyBugs clothes, in a basket, ready for washing!
5. Say the names of the items as you help your BB put them in the washing machine - "dolly's sock", "bib"

6. Talk simply about what you are doing:
"that's all" "soap in"
"turn it on"
7. Let your child take the washing out of the machine and praise her if she names any items.



8. Tie some string between two chairs to make a washing line. Grab some pegs and 'hang out the washing' together.
9. Occasionally you can ask "Where's the ___?" and see if your BB can find items. Don't overdo the questions though!

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Busy Toddler 'Make Your Own' Fun



Easy home play

- For busy toddlers, doing the chores is playtime! Your BB will love to help you match the socks, and sort the clothes. It's not always practical, but when it can be done, let your child 'help' with the washing and talk about what's happening - "daddy's shirt", "put it in", "a big sock". It may take a bit longer, but it's a great way to learn!
- Put together your BB's own feeding kit for dolly/teddy. Collect some of their old baby items - spoon, bottle, bib, bowl - and put them together in a bag ready for playtime.
Extend this game by putting dolly/teddy to bed after their dinner. A box is great for a bed - just grab a piece of material for a blanket and a small toy, and help your BB tuck them in. Your BB might even like to 'read' a bedtime story!
- Expand your play with toy vehicles by making a ramp out of cardboard and a tunnel out of a box - this is a great way to help your BB learn to use prepositions (position words) such as 'in', 'on', 'up', 'down', 'under', 'over' and 'through'. Car racing is also great fun, and it's a good chance to practise words like 'Ready, set, go', 'stop' and 'crash'!

"hang it up"

"turn it on"

"yummy"

"more milk?"

"goodnight teddy"

"all wet"

"dirty clothes"

"oh no...crash!"