Approaches to Learning

8 TO 21 MONTHS

Allow young toddlers, within reason, to do things their own way.

The product or outcome does not matter if it is not endangering anyone.

Provide materials such as blocks, boxes, or items for which there doesn't have to be a "correct" way to play with them. This allows for open-ended play.

Use toys or objects that make things happen such as kicking a ball or pushing a button on a toy.

Play simple games that allow for turn-taking. This builds on complex playing.

Encourage pointing or using simple language to express choices or preferences.



Approaches to Learning

8 TO 21 MONTHS

Encourage toddlers to participate in routines such as pulling pants up when getting dressed or putting a dish in the sink when done eating.

Introduce new and slightly challenging activities.

Model actions with objects such as talking on a phone, feeding a doll, or using a chair as a car.

Encourage curiosity and eagerness when learning new tasks.

Provide activities that pique their interest to help build on maintaining focus.

