



Did You Know AT 5 MONTHS I CAN –

- do tricks such as “reach, grasp, retrieve, and put-in-the-mouth” really well. My small muscles are growing.
- play games with you now such as “peek-a-boo” and “pat-a-cake.”
- suddenly become afraid of a stranger, so please help me adjust to meeting new people. It helps to meet strangers one at a time.
- babble a lot using these sounds: “ma-ma,” “da-da,” and “ba-ba.”
- have a lot of emotional energy. Help me develop a good sense of humor. Teach me to laugh.
- bring my feet to my mouth and suck my toes.
- hold my bottle by myself.
- lean over to look for a fallen object.
- start to scoot or crawl.

YOU CAN HELP ME LEARN & GROW! YOU CAN –

- keep my day on a schedule and make sure we have routines such as reading after bath time.
- give me safe and clean toys to play with.

- read, sing, and play with me.
- introduce me to strangers slowly. Give me time to know them. Stay close by.
- help me practice talking by talking with me. Speak clearly so that I can practice the sounds of your words.

LEARNING GAMES

“Touching”

Give your baby several different objects to touch with her hands and feet. Examples are scraps of cloth made of different textures such as a soft, furry blanket and wooden blocks. Include objects that are hard, soft, silky, cold, warm, wet, dry, furry, smooth, firm—anything that can be handled safely and is too large to fit in the baby’s mouth.

WHAT IS THE BABY LEARNING?

Providing different things to touch and feel helps your baby develop an awareness of how to tell different objects by the way they feel.

Each child develops at his or her own rate. This information is meant as only a guide.

For more information on parenting, contact your county Extension office.



msucare.com

By **Louise E. Davis, Ph.D.**, Associate Extension Professor, Child & Family Development, School of Human Sciences

Copyright 2003 by Mississippi State University. All rights reserved.

This publication may be copied and distributed without alteration for nonprofit educational purposes provided that credit is given to the Mississippi State University Extension Service.

Mississippi State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, or veteran status.

Information Sheet 1640

Extension Service of Mississippi State University, cooperating with U.S. Department of Agriculture. Published in furtherance of Acts of Congress, May 8 and June 30, 1914. **JOE H. MCGILBERRY**, Director (5M-6-03)