

Did You Know AT 9-12 MONTHS I CAN —

- crawl up and down stairs.
- walk and try to pick up something or wave at the same time.
- build towers with blocks.
- place objects inside one another.
- take lids off jars.
- enjoy looking at picture books and turning the pages.
- recognize symbols of objects.
- say words and phrases over and over.
- point to objects you name.
- enjoy listening and moving to music.
- eat soft food with a baby spoon.
- hold my cup by myself.
- get upset when my toys are taken away.
- show my likes and dislikes about food and toys by shaking my head or saying "yes" or "no."
- show if I am left-handed or right-handed.
- want to do things on my own without help.

YOU CAN HELP ME LEARN & GROW! YOU CAN —

- play music for me to listen and dance to.
- place objects in front of me to stack, or place objects inside a larger container so I can begin to learn about size.
- tie a string onto a toy and let me play with the string to figure out that the toy will move when I want it to.

■ play peek-a-boo and hide-and-seek with me so that I can practice solving problems by finding you. Use your hands for peek-a-boo, use blankets or furniture to hide under or behind for hide-and-seek. You can also go around the corner to call for me to come to you.

■ read books over and over and repeat the simple words. Use the words in talking to me and others so I can listen to conversations. Let me help you turn the book's pages.

■ give me a toy for each hand so I can show you that I can do one thing with one hand and another with the other hand.

■ put a large, strong crayon and a large piece of paper in front of me so I can learn how to draw. Try to place the crayon in each hand to see which is the better hand for me to hold it with. Then, show me how you draw and let me try.

■ give me a choice for food, clothes, and toys so I can show you my independence and what I like and dislike.

LEARNING MORE ABOUT ME

Children start to show their personalities more during these months. When playing with a toy, your child may give you the toy and expect it back because it is "his" toy. Do not be alarmed if he starts to cry when a toy is taken away from him. Children also start to favor certain toys or foods. Allow your child to have his independence so he will become an individual, with his own personality.

PICTURE BLOCK

You need the following materials:

Small box, newspaper, tape, photographs, clear contact paper

Fill a small box with newspaper. Tape the box shut. Put your baby's photographs with his/her name written under the picture. Cover with clear contact paper. Let your baby play with the block

and begin to recognize himself/herself.
(You may choose to use a soft photo cube to put the pictures in instead.)

PUPPET GLOVE

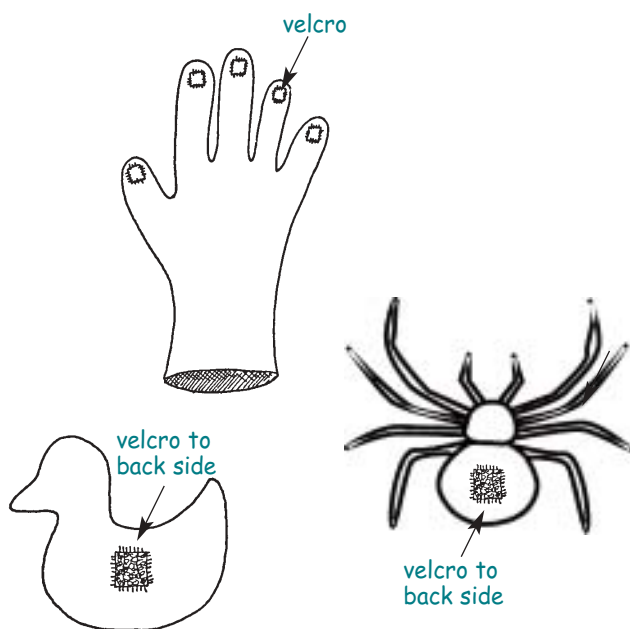
You need the following materials:
Colorful, cotton garden gloves; self-stick velcro; patterns of figures; felt in different colors, foamie sheets, or foamie cut outs*; materials to decorate the figures with if desired.
(With small children, be careful of small pieces that may fall off.)

Cut small pieces of velcro and attach to each finger of a garden glove. (Because you will need only one glove, share the extra one with a friend.)

If you choose to use the patterns below, then proceed with the next few steps:

Cut five outline pieces out of the material. Decorate if you wish. Attach the other side of the velcro to the back of the figure (spider, duck).

*You may choose to use foamie cut-outs, found in craft areas of store, that work perfectly well.



PLAY THESE FINGER-PLAY GAMES WITH ME

The Itsy-Bitsy Spider

The itsy-bitsy spider
Climbed up the water spout.
Down came the rain
And washed the spider out.
Out came the sun
And dried up all the rain.
And the itsy-bitsy spider
Climbed up the spout again.

Five Little Ducks

Five little ducks went out to play, over the hill and far away. Mama Duck called, "Quack, quack, quack." Four little ducks came waddling back.

Four little ducks went out to play, over the hill and far away. Mama Duck called, "Quack, quack, quack." Three little ducks came waddling back.

Three little ducks went out to play, over the hill and far away. Mama Duck called, "Quack, quack, quack." Two little ducks came waddling back.

Two little ducks went out to play, over the hill and far away. Mama Duck called, "Quack, quack, quack." One little duck came waddling back.

One little duck went out to play, over the hill and far away. Mama Duck called, "Quack, quack, quack." No little ducks came waddling back.

No little ducks went out to play, over the hill and far away. Daddy Duck called, "Quack, quack, quack." Five little ducks came waddling back.

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

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

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