### Social-Emotional Activities for Toddlers 24 Months Old

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<th>Try to have set routines during the day, and let your child know what will be happening next. Say, “Remember, after we brush your hair, we get dressed.”</th>
<th>Your child is learning about rules but will need a lot of reminders. Keep rules short and simple, and be consistent.</th>
<th>Have a special reading time every day with your toddler. Snuggle up and get close. Before bedtime or naptime is a great time to read together.</th>
<th>Let your toddler know how special she is! She will love to be praised for new things she learns how to do. Say, “You are so helpful. Wow, you did it yourself!”</th>
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<td>Stay nearby to help your child learn about taking turns during play with friends. It is early to know how to share. Talking about turns will help him learn.</td>
<td>Give your toddler choices, but keep them simple. Let her choose a red or a blue shirt while dressing. Let her choose milk or juice at lunch.</td>
<td>Provide a lot of time to play with other children. Your child may be very active but needs rest times, too. Try to learn your child’s rhythms and go with his flow.</td>
<td>Let your child do more things for herself.* Put a stool near the sink so she can wash her hands and brush her teeth. Let her pick out clothes and help dress herself.</td>
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<td>Get down on the floor and play with your child. Try to follow your child’s lead by playing with toys he chooses and trying his ideas.</td>
<td>Encourage your child to pretend play. Put a few small chairs in a row to make a “bus.” Cut up some paper “money” to pay the driver. Ask, “Where will we go today?”</td>
<td>Everything is new to your toddler. She can observe some weeds growing on a path or a bird pecking for seeds. Take some time to see the little things with her.</td>
<td>Your toddler is learning all about emotions. Help him label his feelings when he is mad, sad, happy, or silly. Say, “You are really happy” or “You seem really mad.”</td>
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<td>Play Parade or Follow the Leader with your toddler. Your child will love to copy you—and be the leader!</td>
<td>If your child has a temper tantrum, then stay calm and talk in a quiet tone. If possible, let her calm down by herself.</td>
<td>Don’t forget to tell your child how much you love him! Give him hugs and kisses and soft touches to let him know.</td>
<td>Teach your child simple songs and finger plays, such as “The Itsy-Bitsy Spider.”</td>
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*Be sure to review safety guidelines with your health care provider.
Social-Emotional Development at 24 Months

- Your toddler likes to imitate you, other adults, and her friends.
- Your toddler wants to do everything by himself, even though he can’t!
- Some of your toddler’s favorite words are mine, no, and me do it.
- Your toddler has many emotions, and her emotions can be very “big.” She can get angry and have temper tantrums.
- Your toddler likes to imitate you doing household tasks. He can put some of his toys away with help from you.
- Your toddler loves to try new things and explore new places. But she wants to know you are nearby to keep her safe.
- Your toddler is very interested in other children. He is still learning how to play with them.
- Your toddler will play nearby other children but not really with them. She does not understand how to share her things yet.
- Your toddler has a hard time waiting and wants things right now.
- Your toddler loves attention from familiar adults and children but may act shy around strangers.
- Your toddler shows affection by returning a hug or kiss. He tries to comfort familiar people who are in distress.
- Your toddler knows her name and knows what she likes and dislikes. She may be very attached to certain things, such as a special book, toy, or blanket.
- Your toddler enjoys simple pretend play. He may like pretending to cook or talk on the telephone.
- Your toddler is learning about the routines in your home but often does not remember rules.