

Toddler Suggested Materials List

BOOKS

Please note, some books may fit more than 1 category, and be listed on more than one list. Books for infants and toddlers should include safe and sturdy books, such as vinyl, cloth, round edge laminated, and board books.

Topics:

- Fantasy (pretend stories about people and animals)
- Factual information (books with pictures of real animals, facts about real life of animals and plants, jobs that people have)
- Nature and science (how we use the 5 senses, the human body, houses of different animals)
- Different races and cultures (historical and current stories about people from different races and cultures or books in other languages, people of different generations)
- Different abilities (individuals with special needs and how they might use aids such as eyeglasses, hearing aids, wheelchairs or crutches)
- Stories about familiar routines, such as eating, sleeping, toileting or dressing
- Alphabet and math related books

FINE MOTOR

Please note, some materials may be suitable for more than 1 age group or fit more than 1 category.

- Containers to fill and dump
- Nesting/stacking toys
- Cause and effect toys, which respond with sounds or other responses when buttons are pushed
- Shape sorting games
- Manipulatives with larger than preschool-sized pieces, such as links/interlocking stars
- Large pegs and peg boards
- Simple lacing toys and large stringing beads
- Medium and large sized interlocking blocks
- Puzzles with knobs and large pieces

FURNISHINGS FOR RELAXATION AND COMFORT (Cozy Area)

Materials and Equipment

Softness for children:

- Wall-to-wall carpeting
- Rugs / Mats
- Soft couches, cushions or chairs

ART MATERIALS

Please note, some materials may be suitable for more than 1 age group or fit more than 1 category, and be listed on more than one list. All materials should be nontoxic and safe for children to use. Items that pose choking hazards, such as markers and glue stick caps should not be accessible to children.

Young Toddlers, 12-23 months

Materials and Equipment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Large crayons<input type="checkbox"/> Large paper taped to a surface (taped to table, easel, or wall)<input type="checkbox"/> Finger paint<input type="checkbox"/> Tempera paints and painting tools, such as brushes with chunky handles<input type="checkbox"/> Large chalk on a chalkboard<input type="checkbox"/> Watercolor markers<input type="checkbox"/> Playdough

Toddlers, 24-30 months

Materials and Equipment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Fingerpaints<input type="checkbox"/> Tempera paints<input type="checkbox"/> Painting tools, such as paint brushes, of various widths with short handles<input type="checkbox"/> Paper of different sizes and colors<input type="checkbox"/> Easy to use blunt scissors<input type="checkbox"/> Unbreakable chalk board w/ chalk and erasers<input type="checkbox"/> Play dough and tools<input type="checkbox"/> Watercolor markers<input type="checkbox"/> Large self-stick stamps, stickers and tape<input type="checkbox"/> Collage materials of different textures, scrap paper, and cut out pictures for collage with glue sticks

MUSIC

Materials and Equipment - can be homemade or store bought	
Music materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Any toy that makes noise<input type="checkbox"/> Rattles, shakers<input type="checkbox"/> Blocks with bells in them<input type="checkbox"/> Busy boxes<input type="checkbox"/> Push toys that pop	Music instruments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Drums with drumsticks<input type="checkbox"/> Xylophones with mallet<input type="checkbox"/> Triangles with mallet<input type="checkbox"/> Maracas<input type="checkbox"/> Push toys that pop<input type="checkbox"/> Wrist bells<input type="checkbox"/> Castanets/cymbals

BLOCKS

Materials and Equipment
Types of Blocks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Soft vinyl or cloth blocks<input type="checkbox"/> Large cardboard blocks<input type="checkbox"/> Sensory blocks<input type="checkbox"/> Small table top or alphabet blocks<input type="checkbox"/> Lightweight blocks of various shapes and sizes
Types of accessories (not required for children under 2): <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Small people<input type="checkbox"/> Vehicles<input type="checkbox"/> Animals<input type="checkbox"/> Other accessories such as road signs, fences, trees, small buildings, etc.

ACTIVE PHYSICAL PLAY

Materials and Equipment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Riding toys without pedals<input type="checkbox"/> Small riding toys with pedals<input type="checkbox"/> Large push-pull wheel toys<input type="checkbox"/> Balls and bean bags<input type="checkbox"/> Age-appropriate climbing equipment<input type="checkbox"/> Slide<input type="checkbox"/> Balance board<input type="checkbox"/> Cushions or rugs for tumbling<input type="checkbox"/> Tunnels<input type="checkbox"/> Large cardboard boxes

PROMOTING ACCEPTANCE OF DIVERSITY

Materials in all areas should portray positive representation of diversity in races, ages, abilities and gender in non-stereotype roles, including pictures, photos displayed, books, CDs, music tapes, videos, computer software, dolls, puppets, games, puzzles, people in block area, etc.

Materials and Equipment
Books, materials and pictures (i.e. books, puzzles, posters) from the following categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Races<input type="checkbox"/> Cultures<input type="checkbox"/> Ages<input type="checkbox"/> Abilities<input type="checkbox"/> Gender Dolls that represent at least 3 races Small toy people that are used with blocks are considered dolls

DRAMATIC PLAY

Please note, some materials may be suitable for more than 1 age group or fit more than 1 category, and be listed on more than one list.

Materials and Equipment

For toddlers only the simplest of dress-ups are considered age-appropriate, and they must be safe for very young children to use. This means that they would not permit tripping, strangulation, or blocking of the air passage.

Appropriate dress-ups include:

- Simple shirts or blouses for both men and women
- Dresses, skirts, jackets of older children that have been shortened for older toddlers
- Simple footwear, such as adult slip-on shoes, sandals, slippers, shoes or boots made for older children
- Hats of many types
- Purses, baskets with straps or handles that will not fit over a child's head so they are not a strangulation hazard
- Commercially produced costumes made to fit toddlers

Other dramatic play materials include:

- Child-sized house furniture (stove, sink, table, chairs, etc.)
- Cooking/eating equipment
- Play foods
- Dolls and puppets with no removable parts
- Doll furnishings
- Doll houses with furniture and people
- Soft animals
- Mirrors (in play area or attached to the walls)
- Toy buildings (farm, airport, schoolhouse, with furnishings, people, and vehicles)
- Toy telephones

Toy telephones must reasonably look like a telephone:

- Cell
- Portable
- Dial or push button

MATH/NUMBERS

Materials and Equipment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Number and shape picture books <input type="checkbox"/> Busy boxes with numbers or shapes <input type="checkbox"/> Nesting/stacking cups <input type="checkbox"/> Stacking rings <input type="checkbox"/> Simple number and shape puzzles <input type="checkbox"/> Simple shape sorters <input type="checkbox"/> Activity boxes with different shapes to push or insert <input type="checkbox"/> Cash registers and toy telephones with numbers on keys <input type="checkbox"/> Big pegs and peg boards <input type="checkbox"/> Set of blocks with various shapes and sizes <input type="checkbox"/> Number blocks <input type="checkbox"/> Large safe tape measures

NATURE/SCIENCE

Nature/Science materials include 4 categories:

Materials and Equipment		
<p>Collections of Natural Objects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Rocks <input type="checkbox"/> Insects <input type="checkbox"/> Seed pods <input type="checkbox"/> Other 	<p>Living Things:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> House plants <input type="checkbox"/> Gardens <input type="checkbox"/> Pets (if children help take care of the pet daily) <input type="checkbox"/> Butterfly Garden <input type="checkbox"/> Ant Farms <input type="checkbox"/> Other 	<p>Nature/Science books, Pictures, Games or Toys:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Nature Matching cards <input type="checkbox"/> Nature sequencing cards <p>Nature/Science Tools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Magnets <input type="checkbox"/> Magnifying glasses <input type="checkbox"/> Thermometers <input type="checkbox"/> Prisms <input type="checkbox"/> Other
<p>Toys:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Realistic plastic or rubber zoo animals, farm animals, insects <input type="checkbox"/> Puzzles with realistic nature or science content <input type="checkbox"/> Scent boxes or smelling containers <input type="checkbox"/> Realistic plastic vegetables and fruits <input type="checkbox"/> Infant mat with realistic nature or science pictures <input type="checkbox"/> Realistic animal-shaped rattles <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile with realistic birds or butterflies that infants can play with <input type="checkbox"/> Large magnets that toddlers can experiment with and safe things for magnets to attract 		

SAND and WATER (For children 18 months and older)

There should be enough of the sand/water material so the children can dig, scoop, pour, and empty and fill containers. Do not use dried beans, small pebbles, Styrofoam chips, cornmeal and flour, as they are not appropriate substitutes for sand because of the safety hazards they create for the children.

Materials and Equipment	
Sand Toys <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Measuring cups and other unbreakable containers<input type="checkbox"/> Funnels<input type="checkbox"/> Plastic tubes<input type="checkbox"/> Molds<input type="checkbox"/> Scoops<input type="checkbox"/> Pails, shovels, rakes, sifters, sand or water wheels, pipes, etc.	Water Toys <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Sponges<input type="checkbox"/> Things that sink or float<input type="checkbox"/> Turkey basters<input type="checkbox"/> Unbreakable spray bottles<input type="checkbox"/> Dramatic play toys, such as animals, sea creatures, dolls, and boats