Fact Sheet 92-11

**Communicating With Your Baby Through Play**

9 to 12 months

exploring... Between nine and twelve months, baby’s world is growing fast.

- He explores everything.
- He is showing his own moods and personality.
- He is beginning to learn the meaning of a few of your simple words, like “bye, bye” or “no”.
- He may even take those exciting first steps (but many healthy babies don’t walk until after their first birthday.)
- Loud noises and heights scare baby and baby gets upset when you leave.
- Baby is babbling more and more.

playing with your baby...

- Peek-a-boo is an especially fun game for baby.
- Now is a good time to start sharing books with her. She is interested in turning pages and having you name the things on the page. Pages tear easily so cloth or hard cardboard books are best.
- Give her some old pots, pans, and a wooden spoon for playing with and banging on.
- Cut a large hole in the top of a shoe box or cardboard box. Let her drop a toy in and find it by looking for the toy in the box.
how about .......... a baby book.

Cut pictures from a magazine, such as:

- a cat
- a dog
- a truck
- flower
- anything you like - you can even draw it yourself.

Take an old photo album or scrapbook that has plastic covered pages. Place a picture inside each page and close. Pictures can be changed often.

He or She?

*We give equal time and space to both sexes! That’s why we take turns referring to babies as “he” or “she.” So keep in mind that even if we say “he” or “she” we are talking about all babies.*

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