



RIBBON TOYS

Materials you need:

- 3-5 favourite baby and toddler small toys
- Short lengths of different coloured ribbon

Setup for play:

This activity works well with ages 9-12 months, but toddlers will love to join in too when you get to the hiding toy stage!

- Tie the short piece of ribbon around each toy and set down on the ground near baby. Show the children how to grasp and pull the ribbon to get the toy.
- Give the toy with ribbon to the babies to hold and investigate – place hands on the ribbon. Set toy down and see if they can pull toward them. It will take a little practice, but they will have fun trying!
- When they are grasping and pulling the ribbon to bring the toy closer try hiding the toys with just a little of the ribbon poking out. Ask children where the toys are and help them search then pull the ribbon to find the toy.

What are they learning with this activity?

As the babies pull on the ribbon toys they are learning to:

- Experiment with cause and effect
- Use hand/eye coordination skills and balance
- Follow directions
- Strengthen fine motor muscles, visual motor integration and control
- Understand object permanence
- Solve problems

Extending the play:

- Hide toys in shoeboxes with the ribbon hanging out to tug & pull.