

8 MONTHS – Activities in Support of Protocols

Preparation

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Assessment

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Affiliation



Observation

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Developmental Behaviors

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System of Support

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Baby TALK and System of Care

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Reflection-On-Action

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Documentation

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My Babble has meaning!

Purpose: Recognize and encourage when infants develop babble with inflection. This shows the intent to convey meaning, such as babbles that sound like a question or statement based on inflection. Assist the infant learn control of pitch and volume.

Come prepared to wonder about this topic with the caregiver ...

- How does your baby react to different ways in which you talk?
- How do changes in pitch or volume elicit different responses from your baby?
- What new sounds is your baby starting to make?
- How does your baby respond when you repeat sounds back to her?
- What common phrases do you use in your family with babies? Have you used "uh-oh," "oops," or "wow!"
- What happens when you use a common phrase with exaggerated facial expressions and over exaggerated inflection?

Activity

- What do you think will happen right now if you talk to her in an excited way?
- Is this how she typically responds?
- Let's see what happens when you listen for sounds and then repeat them back to her?

What meaning is the caregiver making of this development...

- What is it like to interact with more sounds back and forth with your baby?
- What do you enjoy most about this time in the child's life, beginning to communicate with each other more and more?
- Are there things you do to encourage your baby to talk with you? How has this been for you?

IELG Standard(s):

0-9 months

Language Development, Communication, & Literacy

Social Communication

Participates in back-and-forth communication, e.g., babbles back and forth and/or plays peek-a-boo with caregiver

Expressive Communication

Babbles and experiments with all types of sounds (two-lip sounds: "p," "b," "m")

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I can use my fingers!

Purpose: Encourage infant to pick up small objects, increase coordination, and assist with self-feeding.

Materials: Small puffs or cereal pieces

Come prepared to wonder with the caregiver about this topic ...

- How is your baby using his fingers and hands? What are his favorite things to pick up?
- Have you noticed your baby picking up small objects using finger and thumb pincer grasp?
- What happens when you are feeding him?

Activity

- Let's see what happens when you put a piece of food in front of him now.
- Is this what you typically observe? Are there times when it is easier or more difficult for him to use his pincer grasp? What does he do when it is more difficult?
- What will he do now if you put it closer to him? Further away from him?

What meaning is the caregiver making of this development...

- How has your experience changed when feeding him?
- When your child works very hard at a task like picking up a small puff, how do you let him know you are proud of his accomplishment?
- How do you feel about his ability to more easily pick up and put small objects in his mouth?

IELG Standard(s):

7-18 months

Physical Development & Health

Fine Motor

Uses pincer grasp, e.g., picks up a cheerio with thumb and fore finger

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Observation

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Developmental Behaviors

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System of Support

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Documentation

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Who's that baby!

Purpose: Babies naturally like to look at other people and this mirror time lets them become familiar with faces and different expressions. It helps them practice focusing on things and tracking images with their eyes. It's an early step towards their emotional development too because they'll begin to notice how their own expression changes which once they are older can lead you into talking about how they're feeling.

Materials: Hand held mirror, scarf/blanket

Come prepared to wonder about this topic with the caregiver ...

- How does your baby respond to your facial expressions?
- Has your baby had an opportunity to be around other babies? How does she respond to them?
- Have you observed your baby's response to her own image in a mirror? What was this like?

Activity

- Let's see what happens when you and your baby are together in front of the mirror right now.
- Let's observe. Do you see her trying to touch the baby in the mirror? Do you see her smiling at her image?
- What will happen if you change your facial expression now? What will she do if you go from a calm expression to a happy, animated one?
- Do you think your baby will respond to peek-a-boo using the mirror?
- Let's see...What happens when you drape a scarf or piece of fabric over the mirror, wonder where the infant has gone, and then pull it away quickly with a flourish?

What meaning is the caregiver making of this development...

- What do you think your baby is thinking when she sees herself in the mirror?

IELG Standard(s):

7-18 months

Social & Emotional Development

Self-Concept

Demonstrates interest in looking in mirror

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Is the baby interested in motor activities?

Observation

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Developmental Behaviors

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System of Support

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Baby TALK and System of Care

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Reflection-On-Action

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Documentation

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Ready, set, move!

Purpose: At this age infants are ready to actively explore their environment...and see what their body can do! The infant may be rolling, scooting, creeping, or even crawling or cruising!

Come prepared to wonder with the caregiver about this topic ...

- How is your child moving now?
- What have you observed motivates him to explore?
- Do you place your baby on the floor to play? What does he do when you do this?

Activity

- Let's try playing on the floor now.
- What will happen if you place your baby in different positions? What will he do when he's on his back? On his stomach? In a sitting position?
- Let's observe any effort he makes to transition to moving.
- If you move toys or interesting objects farther away from him right now, will this encourage him to move toward it?

What meaning is the caregiver making of this development...

- How is it for you and your family now that he is moving more?
- How do you experience his desire to move more during your daily routine?
- What are his favorite times to play like this?

IELG Standard(s):

7-18 months

Physical Development & Health

Gross Motor

Scoots body to attempt to move from one point to another