



There are five areas essential to your child's healthy development. Find more supportive learning experiences for your child on the following pages in the **Massachusetts Early Learning Guidelines for Infants and Toddlers**, downloadable from the Early Education and Care website: www.mass.gov/eec

Toddlers (12 to 33 months) →
Infants (birth to 15 months) →

1 Social-Emotional Development (this brochure)	p. 31	p. 101
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MASSACHUSETTS
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Prepared by Davis Publications, Worcester, MA



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Help me grow!



Your child enters the world ready to form relationships.

Bond with your child...

You foster the foundation of brain development and learning during the first 3 years of your child's life.

A trusting relationship with your child builds the framework for healthy interactions with others.

Things You Can Do with Your **Baby**

Activities for Social-Emotional Development



Bonding

Use daily routines as an opportunity to build attachment. **I know you're feeling sad, but Mommy will be back to get you. She always comes back.**

Providing Time

Make time and space for babies to interact. **Look — Jake is smiling at you. He's saying "Hello!"**



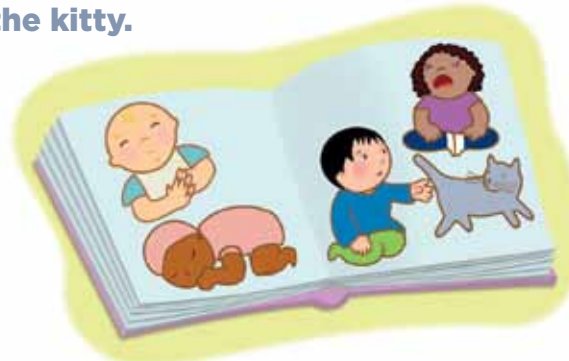
Noticing

Observe and offer words and explanations for behavior. **She's upset because you took her toy. Let's give it back and find you another.**



Recognizing

Read simple stories and talk about feelings in the pictures. **This baby seems curious about the kitty.**



Soothing

Stay calm as you follow your infant's signals and maintain routines. **I can see you are ready for your nap.**



Responding

Help your baby develop self-awareness. **You found your reflection! That's you!**

Things You Can Do with Your **Toddler**

Activities for Social-Emotional Development

Trusting

Look for opportunities to build trusting relationships.

Your teacher told me you shared your doll with José today.



Modeling

Model and provide the words to play with kindness. **I'm giving you the box now because it's your turn.**

Supporting

Provide supportive experiences where your toddler has two good choices. **Would you like water or milk?**



Expressing

Provide recognition of your child's response to activities or situations. **You look so happy! You must really like playing in the water.**



Respecting

Help your toddler develop a positive sense of self. **I see you are trying to put your shoes on! May I help you loosen them so you can get your foot in?**