

6 Things Your Child Wants You to Know About Social Emotional Development

1. I am learning to get along with others.
2. I am learning about what I feel and experience.
3. This means that I am:
 - Learning to trust
 - Getting to know myself
 - Understanding how the world around me works
 - Learning to be independent
 - Learning to make good choices
4. I came into the world ready to build relationships.
5. When you love and care for me you are helping me to understand how to talk, play, share, and learn with others.
6. These are skills that will help me live a happy, healthy life.



Special thanks to the WV families who shared pictures of their day!



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WV Birth to Three services and supports are provided under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and administered through the West Virginia Department of Health, Office of Maternal, Child and Family Health.

Why Early Relationships Matter



Grow

Develop

Learn

**West Virginia
Birth to Three**

**West Virginia
Department of Health**

Bureau for Public Health

Things You Can Do With Your Baby

Activities for Social Emotional Development

Bonding

Use daily routines as an opportunity to build attachment. *When I cry someone comes to tend to my needs.*



Providing Time
Make time and space for babies to interact. *Look—Jack is smiling at you. He is saying “Hello”!*



Noticing

Observe and offer words and explanations for behavior. *Claire is 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. *Oh no! The baby in the story is crying, I wonder why?*



Soothing

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



Responding

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



Things You Can Do With Your Toddler

Activities for Social Emotional Development

Modeling

Provide the words and show me how to play with kindness. *I'm giving you the block because it is your turn.*



Trusting

Look for opportunities to build trusting relationships. *You look sad, remember Daddy will be back to get you.*



Expressing

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



Supporting

Provide supportive experiences where your toddler has two good choices. *Would you like an apple or banana?*



Respecting

Help your toddler develop a positive sense of self. *Wow! You put on your hat just like Grandpa taught you!*

