

**16 - 20  
months**

**1. Pretend play becomes even more fun at this age.** Encourage your toddler to have a doll or stuffed toy do what he does— walk, go to bed, dance, eat, and jump. Include the doll in daily activities or games.

**2. Toddlers love to play in water.** Put squeezable objects in the bathtub, such as sponges or squeeze bottles, along with dump-and-pour toys (cups, bowls).

**3. Help your toddler sort objects into piles.** They can help you sort laundry (put socks in one pile and shirts in another). Play “clean up” games. Have your toddler put toys on shelves or boxes.

**4. Lay out your toddler’s clothes** on the bed before dressing. Ask them to give you a shirt, pants, shoes, and socks. This is an easy way to learn the names of common items.

