LearningGames®
Are playful adult-child interactions

They are fun, simple and go back and forth between partners.

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Lets get started
ACTIVITY 1

Hold your baby close. Name any part of your face she touches.

Chin. You found Mum’s chin.

Mouth. That’s Mum’s mouth.

ACTIVITY 2

Talk from a distance so he will want to turn and find your voice.

Hi, Eddie. I’m over here.
ACTIVITY 3

Let her watch a noise-making toy go out of sight – then immediately let her see it again.

ACTIVITY 4

Give her a big smile when she grabs your scarf.
ACTIVITY 5

Use words and objects to say what will happen next. He will begin to think about the next event.

It’s time to go in the car.

ACTIVITY 6

Put a picture on a box. Turn it.

Step 1

Flower. See the flower?

Step 2

Where’s that flower going?

Step 3

Can you find it?

Later, add another picture.

Step 1

Flower. See the flower?

Step 2

Dog. See the dog?

Step 3

Find the dog.
ACTIVITY 7

Use imitation to help her learn an action.

Clap, clap. Clap your hands.

ACTIVITY 8

Do something while you are saying the word for it.

Arms wide!

Stand on your head.
ACTIVITY 9

Let your child match shapes and sizes.

Begin by using just 3 things at a time – 2 of the same shape or size and 1 different. Use larger numbers when your child is ready.

Get one like mine.

ACTIVITY 10

Let your child match colours.

Begin by using just 3 things at a time – 2 of the same colour and 1 different. Use larger numbers when your child is ready.

Which sock is the same colour as the one on your foot?
ACTIVITY 11

Describe the marks he makes on paper.

You made a long green line – and some little dots

ACTIVITY 12

Play with items that can be arranged in order – or nested.

You’re getting 1 cup inside the other.

Use natural items.
ACTIVITY 13

Cut a circle apart. Talk about it as she puts the pieces back together.

Later try other shapes. Also try more pieces.

ACTIVITY 14

Give your children practice in cooperating and taking turns. Play with just 2 children.

Move the target farther away as they gain skill in throwing.
ACTIVITY 15

Watch her build. Copy her pattern. Say what you are doing.

I am putting down 2 blue rectangles. Just like you.

Another time, let her copy you.

ACTIVITY 16

Together plant some seeds. Talk about growth and change.

Now we have the soil. What else do our seeds need?
ACTIVITY 17
Let your child make a print with his hand. Use several colours.

You made a picture of your hand. It’s called a handprint.

Tell him that no one else has a print exactly like his.

ACTIVITY 18
Teach him a process. Let him explain it to someone else.

…then, mix it all up…
Ask yourself: Am I doing these things?

I find times during the day for LearningGames®

I play at least 1 game per day, and often more

I change the games a little each time we play – to keep them interesting

To inquire about additional copies of the publication, contact: 3a-info@unimelb.edu.au
Credits

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