

# 66-78 Month Play Ideas

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Play is a natural way for your young child to grow and learn. Activities in this list support key areas of development from your ASQ. Start with easy ones and see what they enjoy. Help your child build important skills while having fun.



## Communication

*Your child's language skills, what they understand and what they can say.*

**Play “what doesn’t belong?”** Let your child find the word that doesn’t belong in a list of 5 or 6 spoken words. The one that doesn’t belong can be the word that doesn’t rhyme or the word that is from a different category. Some examples are 1) fly, try, by, coat, sigh, my; 2) Sam, is, ram, am, spam, ham; 3) red, orange, purple, green, yellow, beetle; Have your child give three to four words with one that doesn’t belong.



## Gross Motor

*How your child's moves their arms and legs.*

**Play the old shell game.** Get four cups or glasses that you cannot see through. Find a small ball, object, or edible item such as a raisin or cracker that fits under the cups. Have your child watch as you place the object under one of the cups and move all of the cups around. Have your child try to remember which cup the object is under. Have your child take a turn moving the objects while you guess.

## Fine Motor

*Your child's hand and finger movement and coordination.*

**Make an “I can read” poster.** Cut out names your child can read—such as names from cereal cartons, and other foods. You can write your child's name, names of family, and names of friends on pieces of paper and put them on the poster. Add to the poster as your child learns to read more names.

**Practice writing first names of friends, toys, and relatives.** Your child may need to trace the letters of these names at first. Be sure to write in large print letters.



## Problem-solving

*How your child thinks, plays with things and how they solve problems.*

**Play the “memory” game.** Put 5 or 6 familiar objects on a table. Have your child close their eyes. Remove one object, and rearrange the rest. Ask your child which object is missing. Take turns finding the missing object.

**You can play “license plate count-up”** in the car or on the bus. Look for a license plate that contains the number 1. Then try to find other plates with 2, 3, 4, and on up to 10. When your child can play “count-up,” play “count-down,” starting with the number 9, then 8, 7, 6, down to 1.



## Personal-social

*Asks about feeding, dressing, and how they engage with others.*

**Encourage dramatic play.** Help your child act out their favorite nursery rhyme, cartoon, or story. Use large, old clothes for costumes.

**Practice pretend play.** Here are some things to act out: 1) eating hot pizza with stringy cheese; 2) winning a race; 3) finding a giant spider; 4) walking in thick, sticky mud; and 5) making footprints in wet sand.



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