

Parent's Page

Mobile Infants

Infants Ages Six to Eighteen Months

By Nancy Cheshire

Photo courtesy of Our Neighborhood Child Development Center



How quickly your baby has grown! In a very short time infants learn to turn over, creep, crawl and walk. Each child is unique with their own personality and temperament style. When their needs are met in a nurturing, caring, respectful manner, trust develops. Smiles, gentle touches, soothing words and eye contact help the child see the world as a safe, friendly place.

- **You are your child's first teacher.** Smile, talk to your child and identify objects by name for them. Sing, play and enjoy times shared.
- **Read to your child every day.** Board books with simple illustrations, rhyming verses and animal stories appeal to mobile infants. Identify the pictures as you hold your child and read together. Enjoy this special time of nurturing.

Mobile infants learn through exploration and discovery. We appreciate their many accomplishments, but we must keep them safe.

- **Infants learn through their senses.** They touch, taste and chew objects within their reach. "Child proofing" your home is now essential.
- **Check your home for choking hazards.** Items small enough to fit inside the opening of a toilet paper tube can cause choking.
- **Avoid second hand smoke** which can be harmful.

Communication with your child's caregiver is an important element of quality care.

- Share information, respect each other and work together as a team.
- If a problem arises, work with the caregiver to develop a plan that meets the needs of both you and your child.

Encourage mobile infants to do what they can for themselves.

- Helping remove socks and jackets develop their feelings of competence.
- Self-feeding may be messy but is an important achievement.

Enjoy and show delight in the many accomplishments of your Mobile Infant.



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