Your child enters the world ready to form relationships.

A trusting relationship with your child builds the framework for healthy interactions with others.

There are five areas essential to your child’s healthy development. Find more supportive learning experiences for your child on the following pages in the Massachusetts Early Learning Guidelines for Infants and Toddlers, downloadable from the Early Education and Care website: www.mass.gov/eec

Help me grow!

Bond with your child...

1 Social-Emotional Development (this brochure)  p. 31  p. 101
2 Language and Communication Development  p. 47  p. 120
3 Cognitive Development  p. 65  p. 144
4 Physical Health and Well-Being  p. 80  p. 153
5 Approaches to Learning  p. 83  p. 163

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Things You Can Do with Your Toddler

**Bonding**
Use daily routines as an opportunity to build attachment.
I know you’re feeling sad, but Mommy will be back to get you. She always comes back.

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

**Trusting**
Look for opportunities to build trusting relationships.
Your teacher told me you shared your doll with José today.

**Modeling**
Model and provide the words to play with kindness.
I’m giving you the box now because it’s your turn.

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

**Supporting**
Provide supportive experiences where your toddler has two good choices. Would you like water or milk?

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

**Respecting**
Help your toddler develop a positive sense of self. I see you are trying to put your shoes on! May I help you loosen them so you can get your foot in?

Things You Can Do with Your Baby

**Bonding**
Use daily routines as an opportunity to build attachment. I know you’re feeling sad, but Mommy will be back to get you. She always comes back.

**Noticing**
Observe and offer words and explanations for behavior. She’s 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. This baby seems curious about the kitty.

**Supporting**
Provide supportive experiences where your toddler has two good choices. Would you like water or milk?

**Expressing**
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Help your toddler develop a positive sense of self. I see you are trying to put your shoes on! May I help you loosen them so you can get your foot in?