



Never be afraid to try something new. Remember amateurs built the Ark... professionals built the Titanic.

Baby Talk: Resources to Support the People Who Work with Infants and Toddlers

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Early Brain Wiring Holds Clues to Infant Emotional Development

In a comprehensive Genomic Press research article, scientists have uncovered remarkable insights into how the earliest brain connections shape infant emotional development, potentially offering new ways to identify children at risk for future behavioral and emotional challenges. Read on at <https://www.news-medical.net/news/20250603/Early-brain-wiring-holds-clues-to-infant-emotional-development.aspx>

Genes Strongly Influence When Babies Take Their First Steps

New research reveals that genetics play a major role in determining when babies begin walking, accounting for about 25% of the variation in this milestone. In a study analyzing data from over 70,000 infants, scientists identified 11 genetic markers linked to the timing of first steps. Get the details at <https://neurosciencenews.com/genes-baby-walking-28844/>

How Young Is Too Young? No Such Thing, Apparently

U.S. children ages 0-8 average 2½ hours of screen time per day, with those under 2 exceeding one hour. Ages 0-3 are when the brain forms over a million synapses every second. Early and frequent screen exposure can disproportionately prune connections in language, social, and sensory circuits. This can potentially affect communication skills, emotional regulation, and foundational learning. Learn more at [How young is too young? No such thing, apparently— Harvard Gazette](#)

Child Safety Tips: How to Stay Safe While Having Fun

In 2020, approximately three million children aged 14 and under visited emergency rooms for non-fatal injuries. The leading cause of child injury was falls. Children rely on adults to keep them safe while they are at school, at home, in the car, or participating in recreational activities. Learn more about how to keep children both actively engaged and safe at this website: <https://www.siebenpolklaw.com/child-safety-tips/>

Enriching Playspaces for Our Youngest Learners

It's almost back-to-school and many programs are thinking about playground refreshes. The new Early Childhood Playspace Design Toolkit by KABOOM! offers real-world strategies and examples for cities and early learning providers. Think climbing logs and mud kitchens, nature nooks and inclusive paths. Download it at

[New Design Toolkit for Enriching Outdoor Playspaces for our Youngest Learners - KABOOM!](#)

How Families Can Encourage Social Interaction in Children with Autism

We know that young children with autism benefit from support as early as possible to help them build social and communication skills that they may not be developing on their own. In conjunction with professionals, family members are encouraged to learn to use the same techniques to practice regularly at home. Here are some ideas for how to do that:

<https://childmind.org/article/teaching-communication-in-kids-with-autism/>

Early Intervention Video Resources in Spanish

Many of the video resources in Illinois' Early Intervention Training Program (EITP) collection are available in Spanish. While some of the content is specific to Illinois, many topics relate more broadly to supporting young children with disabilities and their families. Scroll through the options at [EITP Videos | Illinois](#)

Baby Talk is a free listserv that is distributed monthly. **Highlighted resources are in Spanish. Los recursos destacados están en español** Past issues (2021-2024) are available at https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1bzKeW05D_ENLn7FGFsMM-6INt4XDHars Baby Talk may be shared or copied. Email a request to [Camille Catlett](#) to subscribe or unsubscribe.