## Development of Play Skills for Infants & Toddlers

Age	Play
Birth to 3 months	<ul> <li>Responds to caregivers</li> <li>Coos and smiles</li> <li>Responds to familiar voices</li> <li>Focuses on objects</li> </ul>
4 to 7 months	<ul> <li>Enjoys social games with caregiver</li> <li>Likes exploratory play supported by caregiver</li> <li>Plays some games with caregiver like peek-a-boo and patty cake</li> </ul>
8 to 12 months	<ul> <li>Begins to imitate play actions or behavior of others, especially caregiver</li> <li>Plays hiding games, songs and rhymes with caregiver</li> <li>Plays alone without caregiver for short periods</li> </ul>
13 to 24 months	<ul> <li>Enjoys play with objects</li> <li>Increased interest in watching other children play (onlooker)</li> <li>Primarily plays alone (solitary)</li> <li>May offer toys to caregiver or other children</li> <li>May choose independent play close to other children (parallel) but not interact with them</li> </ul>
25 to 36 months	<ul> <li>May play with other children but in an occasional or limited way (associative)</li> <li>Some cooperation and talking with other children</li> <li>May take leader/follower roles in play</li> <li>Some pretend play</li> <li>Still plays alone frequently</li> <li>Interactive level moving toward (cooperative play)</li> </ul>

