

The Importance of Toys and Play

Toys are important for the development of children. Almost anything around the home can become a toy; empty cardboard box, plastic dishes, and paper plates. All toys can help children with physical, emotional, cognitive and social development. In the spaces below, list some of the masteries which may occur from playing with the toys. Complete the chart with a fifth and sixth toy of your choice.

Toy	Toddler's Mastery Level	
	Characteristics	What Occurs
Cardboard box		
Ball		
Paper plate		
Plastic dishes		
Parents/siblings		
Your choice of toy		
Your choice of toy		

What should parents think about when selecting toys for children?

What are some safety features parents should look for in toys?