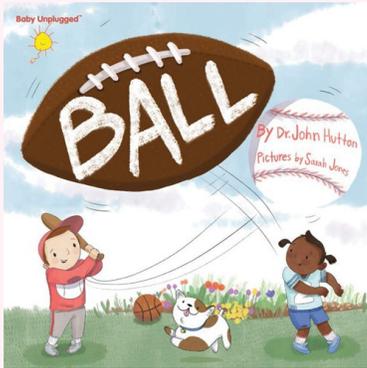


Book to add to your child's library: *Ball* by Dr. John Hutton



BABY GAMES & LANGUAGE

Ball Talk

Sit face-to-face with your baby and hold a soft ball. Use simple, repetitive language:

"Ball."

"Round ball."

"Roll the ball."

"Bounce!"

"Stop."

"Go!"

Rolling Game

Sit on the floor with baby supported. Slowly roll the ball toward them.

Say: "Here comes the ball!"

Help baby touch or stop the ball with their hands.

EXPLORATION

Ball Exploration

Offer 2–3 different balls, such as a soft fabric ball, a textured sensory ball, and a lightweight rubber or foam ball. Let baby: touch, squeeze, mouth (as appropriate), watch the ball roll or bounce.

For younger infants, gently roll the ball across their field of vision to support visual tracking.

Reach for Ball

Place a ball just out of reach to encourage stretching or early scooting.

MUSIC & MOVEMENT

Balls

Here's a ball

(make ball with thumb and index finger)

And here's a ball

(make ball with other thumb and index)

A great big ball, I see

(put arms up and touch fingers over head)

Shall we count them?

Are you ready?

One, Two, Three

(make all three balls in succession)

Roll, Roll, Roll the Ball

(Tune: "Row, Row, Row Your Boat")

Roll, roll, roll the ball

Gently on the floor

Watch it roll and watch it stop

Roll it once more!

Wiggle Your Fingers

Wiggle your fingers, wiggle them so

Wiggle them high, wiggle them low

Wiggle them left, wiggle them right

Wiggle them, wiggle them out of sight

Playing Peek A Boo

Baby's gone, Where is she?

(Cover your eyes with hands.)

Peek-a-boo! Now I see.

(Take hands away and 'find' baby.)

Gone again, Where'd she go?

(Cover your eyes with hands.)

Peek-a-boo! I found her toe!

(Tickle baby's toes.)

RELATIONSHIP BUILDING / BONDING

Face to Face Interaction: sounds.

Hold baby on your lap and gently roll the ball between your hands.

Narrate warmly:

"I'm rolling the ball with you."

"I see you watching the ball."

"You like the red ball!"

Make eye contact, smile, and respond to baby's