

Where Did It Go?



Age 3 to 4 months+

Materials Small toy that makes noise and three colorful wash clothes that

are each a different color

Setting On a soft blanket on the floor, sitting with support, or sitting in a

high chair

Description

Place the child on his/her tummy on the floor. Show the child each wash cloth, and then place the cloths on the floor just out of his/her reach. Show him/her the toy, and shake it. Then put it on top of one of the wash cloths, and encourage the child to come get it. Repeat a few times until the child is used to the game. Now shake the toy again, but this time hide it under one of the wash cloths. Then ask the child, "Where did it go?" and encourage the child to find it. Gently tap each wash cloth so the toy makes a noise when it is tapped; as it does this, act surprised and show the joy of finding the lost toy.

Learning Outcomes

Approaches to Learning

Child uses initiative, curiosity, and persistence to learn about the world. He or she explores the environment through movement and the use of senses. He or she looks toward the sound of the toy and the movement of the adult/wash cloth.

Large Motor Skills

Child begins to gain voluntary control of arm movements, using arms purposefully to reach for objects; and using torso to control entire body while lying on the floor.

Science

Child gathers information through the senses. He or she pursues an object with initiative and curiosity and repeats actions that have been successful in reaching a goal.

Did You Know?

As infants are learning how to reach and grasp objects, they quickly move from using a power grip (which is characterized by holding the object against the palm) to using precision grips (which involve holding objects between the thumb and one or more fingers). The actual type of grip is dependent, however, on the shape and size of the object being grasped.

Movement Milestone

At 4 months most infants are able to sit with support; at 5 months they will begin grasping objects while sitting.

