

PARENT-CHILD PLAY CHECKLIST (PCPC)

INFANT PLAY	OFTEN	SOMETIMES	NEVER
Engages in ritualised 'formats'			
Engages in a range of 'formats'			
Is sensitive to child's level of arousal			
Uses facial expression to attract and engage child			
Uses appropriate prosody to attract and engage child			
Repeats enjoyable 'formats'			
Observes child's behaviour			
Imitates the child			
Waits for signals from child			
Follows child's gaze to establish child's topic			
Leaves turns for the child			
Switches activity on cue from the child			
Selects appropriate materials for the child's age			
Enjoys playing with the child			
TODDLER PLAY			
Engages in play with the child			
Observes child's behaviour			
Waits for signals from child			
Provides appropriate materials			
Allows child enough time for play			
Allows child enough space for play			
Sets up the activity to attract the child			
Joins in reciprocal play			
Models play just beyond the child's current level			
Responds to the child			
Provides running commentary on the child's play			
Suggests alternatives to extend child's performance			
Waits for the child to try new actions			
Encourages the child			
Provides verbal prompts			
Switches activity on cue from the child			
Is sensitive to child's changing topic and ideas			
Talks about things not immediately present			
Enjoys playing with the child			

(BROWN, 2001, UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE)

GUIDELINES FOR SELECTING PLAY MATERIALS

Birth to 3 months

Colourful objects that can be strung across the cot or pram

Noise makers such as bells and rattles

Brightly coloured dangling objects

Three to six months

Toys that are sturdy enough to withstand being banged or thrown

Toys that can be grasped and have either colour, texture, smell or sound

Soft toys and teddies

Safe toys that cannot be swallowed or break apart into pieces

Coloured blocks

Squeezable toys

Blocks with noise-makers inside

Balls

Simple picture books or collections of photographs of familiar objects and people

Six to twelve months

Similar to the above but a greater variety

Toys that respond to the child's action (cause and effect)

Stacking and nesting materials

Pots and spoons

Pushable toys

Posting boxes

Twelve to 24 months

Materials for building with

Plastic cups, saucers and plates for tea parties

Play doh

Pulling toys

Play telephone

Toy animals

Toys that promote large muscle and fine motor development

Materials to promote sensory development further such as water and sand play