



WE GIVE YOU THE TOOLS, YOU HAVE THE FUN!
SIMPLE TIPS + PLAY IDEAS TO HELP TODDLER PARENTS

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Working from home or trying to get anything done with a toddler around can be impossible sometimes!

Trying to hop on a conference call, put in a load of laundry, or finish typing an email to a client can be difficult to do with a toddler right next to you, asking for your attention.

Sometimes when you're all stuck at home together and you don't have the luxury of having a nanny or another parent to entertain your child, you just need to pull up a chair or set them up with an activity nearby.

Hopefully one or more of these activities will help you make it through a busy day when you need your child to play "quietly" (as much as toddlers can) and let you get a few things done.

Have you ever heard the quote, "Play is the work of childhood" by Jean Piaget?

Just like you have work to do, kids have work to do too. Why not set them up with their work before you start yours?

There are a lot of types of working parents and a lot of different jobs. Hopefully you can use some of these ideas to make working from home a positive experience for both you and your toddler.

No activity with toddlers will fill up a whole hour (at least not usually), but having a plan and a few activities prepared can help you try!

Most of these activities shared below require very little set up and very few materials.

One tip: Often when you take a few minutes to connect and play with your child BEFORE you need to get something done, you are able to fill their attention bucket and they are much more capable of leaving you alone for a few minutes to do their own "work" once that has happened.

SIT BESIDE ME ACTIVITIES

Activity	Details
Foam Stickers	Give your toddler a piece of paper and foam stickers. Show them how to stick them onto the paper.
Save the Dinosaurs	Tape dinosaurs or other favorite toys to the table with painter's tape. Pull off tape. Sort toys by color.
Ribbon push	Give toddler an empty water bottle and handful of colored ribbon. Toddler can push ribbons into bottle 1x1.
Clip Clothespins	Give toddler a dozen clothespins and a basket or bucket. Show toddler how to clip the clothespins onto the basket.
Books & sticky notes	Put several toddler board books into a basket with some sticky notes. Have toddler put sticky notes on fav spots.
Paper & stamps	Give toddler stamps, envelopes, and stamp pads. Have her stamp envelopes & drop them into a box with a slot.
Post It Pull	Stick post its all over the wall or table. Have toddler pull them off the wall/table. Repeat.
Water bin	Put an inch of two of water in a plastic tub. Place it on top of a towel. Add scoops and toy animals. Play!
Pipe cleaner push	Give your toddler a colander & handful of pipe cleaners. Show toddler how to stick the pipe cleaners in the holes.
Paint with water	Give your toddler a paintbrush, colored paper & cup of water. Put paper on baking pan. Let him paint with water.