



DOLL ROLE PLAY

Suits ages 16 - 50 months



What you will need:

- Dolls – hard body
- Water tray /bowl/bath
- Soap – gentle to skin
- Sponges/cloths
- Tea towels
- Baby clothes and shoes
- Nappies

What you do:

1. Help your child to add soapy water into a water tray/ toy bath/washing up bowl ready for your child to wash their doll.
2. Set up a drying station with some towels and then a dressing station with new doll clothes.
3. Ask your child to pick the doll that they would like to wash and let them try to undress the doll, offering support where needed. Undoing buttons and velcro helps develop fine motor skills.
4. While washing their doll you could ask questions to support their learning and develop their understanding of caring for a baby and why it is important to keep clean.
5. When your child has washed their doll encourage them to dry it with a towel.
6. Move over to the dressing station where your child can try to put on a nappy, add clothes or shoes. You can talk about each aspect and how you have this experience each day.

This activity is a good chance to copy the care routines you follow at home. It gives plenty of opportunities to talk about self-help skills such as washing and dressing.

If your child is going to have a new sibling this activity also allows you to talk about being gentle and how to 'play' with a new baby.