



## MOVE PLAY & LEARN

# Roll it Along

**Age** 12 months and up

**Materials** Ball

**Setting** A carpeted or cushioned surface

**Description** Sit across from the toddler, approximately 3–4 feet, with legs spread apart and say, “Here comes the ball.” The child will trap the ball with his or her arms and chest. Encourage the child to roll the ball back to you.

## Learning Outcomes

**Social Emotional** Toddler is responsive in interactions with others and begins to build relationships. Toddler engages in social games, including playful give and take.

**Large Motor Skills** Toddler continues to develop gross (large) motor skills and builds skills in coordination, balance, and body awareness. Toddler gains control of arm movements.

**Did You Know?** Toddlers learn the best through activity, especially activity that is based on their interests and experiences. Toddlers are also highly motivated by their caregiver’s enthusiastic participation, positive feedback, and modeling. Head Start Body Start recommends that caregivers use effective cues to support toddlers’ participation and development. Caregivers should consistently attend to toddlers’ communication, including both verbal and nonverbal signs. Caregivers should be sensitive to the emotions they convey, even subtly in verbal and nonverbal communication, thus building a trusting, nurturing relationship. Caregivers should frequently provide encouragement, including facial, verbal, and or nonverbal expressions, to motivate toddlers’ physical participation. Caregivers may provide physical guidance and support as frequently as needed.

**TODDLERS**