

## 13 - 18 Months

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Baby is starting to understand more of what he hears and is enjoying the use of language. He enjoys hearing short stories and simple songs. He will point at pictures in books and try and sing along to songs he is familiar with. Baby enjoys reading the same books and hearing the same songs over and over; he enjoys knowing what will happen next in the book or song. Repetition helps him memorize simple songs which will help him build his vocabulary.

Baby will:

- **Become more confident and have a greater sense of himself.**  
Baby has more likes and dislikes when it comes to what he plays with, who he wants to play with and when he wants to interact with people.
- **Begin to take ownership of objects belonging to him, such as toys.**  
Baby will have a difficult time with sharing since his toys right now belong to him. His caregivers will hear him using words like “no,” “mine,” etc.
- **Notice his peers.**  
Baby is becoming interested in what others are doing or what they are playing with. He may not join in and play with them but rather sit beside them and play on his own. He will watch his peers but may not initiate any interaction with them.
- **Express his emotions to his caregivers.**  
Baby will still feel a lot of emotions, so his caregivers should comfort him and help him label his feelings. Labeling feelings will give baby ownership of his emotions, and with time he will learn how to express them.