# **Physical Activity in Infants**

Parents and caregivers can help infants develop the skills needed to be *physically active*. By providing a safe, interesting environment, infants can develop key motor and development skills they can build on throughout their lives. Physically active children are more likely to be active as adults and maintain a healthy body weight.

## **PLAY TIME!**

Caregivers should encourage movement and **ACTIVE PLAY** for short periods of time, several times a day.

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When baby is awake, avoid long time periods (more than 60 minutes) of **INACTIVITY** for the baby.



#### TUMMY TIME!

Provide the baby plenty of supervised time to play on her stomach.

## BABY TIME!

Provide toys and activities that encourage infants to move and do things for themselves in a safe environment.

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Place toys just out of reach and encourage the baby to move to get to them.

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Gently move baby (rolling, bouncing, swaying, turning) to encourage muscle development and connections between the brain and muscles.