Here’s a list of our favorite games to play with toddlers. Try some of them or use the ideas to invent your own games.

- Put blocks or small figures into a container. As your child puts them in say, “Boom,” “Block,” or “In”. Use words to tell your child what’s happening. You could say, “Joshua put one in,” “Mama put in,” “Want another one?” or “All done.”

- When stacking blocks and knocking them down say, “Up, up, up,” “Boom,” “Uh-oh,” or “Fall down.”

- Play peek-a-boo saying, “Where’s Jenny?” “There she is!” or “Peek!”

- Wave good-bye to toys when you are finished playing with them and say, “Bye-bye.”

- When your child is interested in going up and down a slide or climbing on and off the couch, turn it into a game saying, “1,2,3,” “Up, up, up,” “Down,” or “Wee!”

- Feed a doll or stuffed animal. Talk about what you or your child is doing by saying, “Feed the baby,” “Stir,” “Juice,” or “Yum-yum.”

- If your child pushes a toy into something say, “Beep beep.” When your child turns from you to go the other way say, “Bye-bye.”

- During chase games or tickle games say, “I’m going to get you,” “Here I come,” or “Tickle, tickle.”