

Why is play important?

Playing develops:

- Social skills
- The brain
- Emotional growth
- Motor skills

Playing encourages:

- A strong bond
- Self-esteem
- Creativity and imagination
- Trust and sharing

Play is a time to:

- Talk about important issues
- Work through emotions
- Teach social skills
- Relax and have fun

Who Are We?

Prevent Child Abuse Rhode Island is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization that has been in existence for 27 years.

As a chartered chapter of the national organization Prevent Child Abuse America, the agency mission is to keep every Rhode Island child safe from abuse and neglect through a primary prevention approach of education, advocacy and public awareness activities.

Our staff and volunteers continuously work to educate the general public about ways to strengthen families.



Prevent Child Abuse Rhode Island

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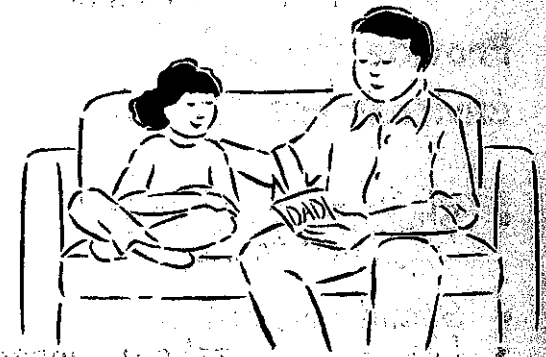
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Playing with your Child



**Prevent Child Abuse
Rhode Island**

How often should you play with your child?

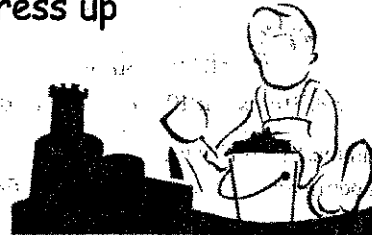
- Everyday
- Longer one-to-one time each week
- Make story time a regular part of bedtime

Provide the best environment for play:

- Shut off the television
- Spend time outdoors
- Be sure your child is in the mood to play
- Put aside household chores

Playtime activity ideas to do together:

- Tell your child a story
- Go for a walk
- Scrapbook your child's school memories
- Paint or draw
- Throw a ball or frisbee
- Ride bikes
- Do a puzzle
- Have a picnic
- Bake cookies
- Play dress up



Tips for Parents:

- Follow the recommended age guidelines for toys
- Don't compete with your child, it's not about who wins
- Don't criticize - encourage imagination
- Closely watch them when you play outdoors
- Be patient and focus on your child during playtime
- Be sure to use a helmet and other safety equipment when playing sports with your child.
- Play with your child, don't just watch.