



## AEP - Vocabulary - Toddlers

It's always helpful when learning a foreign language to learn vocabulary words with a variety of example sentences and contexts.

**toddlerhood** - the state of being a toddler (young child between 1 and 3, or 4 years old).

- Most of us have very few memories from **toddlerhood**.

**picky eater** - someone who is unwilling to eat new or unfamiliar foods.

- Lucas has a friend who's a **picky eater**; he can count the types of food he eats on two hands!

**to be familiar WITH** - to have knowledge about; to be acquainted with.

- Are you **familiar with** the new protocol at the gym?

**to potty train** - the process of teaching oneself or another to use the toilet.

- **Potty training** is not fun and very messy.

**tricycle** - a vehicle that is similar to a bicycle, but with three wheels.

- For her third birthday, she was given a **tricycle**.

**to be cared for by** - to be looked after and provided for.

- The sick dog was **cared for** by a nurse.

**nanny** - an employee who cares for a child at home.

- The **nanny** lives with the family and goes on trips with them.

**babysitter** - a person who looks after babies or kids when parents aren't around.



- The **babysitter** was young and inexperienced.

**daycare** - a business that cares for children.

- The children stayed at **daycare** for 8 hours a day.

**nursery** - a place that cares for young children (fewer than a daycare).

- The **nursery** was full of beautiful babies. You'll find nurseries in hospitals, at church, in businesses, etc.

**preschool** - schooling that comes before kindergarten or elementary school.

- The **preschool's** interior walls were covered in artwork.

**immune TO** - not affected by.

- He got vaccinated and now he's **immune to** the measles.

**to have / to throw a tantrum** - to have an outburst of anger or frustration. Characterized by screaming, crying, hitting, etc.

- Have you ever seen a kid **throw a tantrum** on an airplane?

**pediatrician** - a medical practitioner specialized in babies and children.

- We looked for a good **pediatrician** for months!

**motor skills** - abilities related to controlled movement of the body.

- She's very smart for her age, but her **motor skills** are a little undeveloped.

**to have a fit** - a tantrum; overreaction. Adults AND children can have fits.

- The mom **had a fit** when she found out that her son had flunked (failed; didn't pass) all of his exams.

**to take turns** - to alternate.

- First it's Clara's turn, then it's yours. Please **take turns**, girls.

**to yank** - to pull quickly with force.

- My dress got stuck in the door! I had to **yank** it out.

**doll** - a small plastic or cloth figure / toy that personifies a human (often babies + young girls).

- *She pushed her **dolls** around in a miniature stroller.*

**sibling** - a brother or sister.

- *Lucy has 9 **siblings**! Can you believe it?*

**to put IN time out** - to sit quietly and not participate as punishment.

- *When she put gum in her sister's hair, the babysitter **put her in time out**.*

**to spank** - to hit the butt of another firmly with the palm of one's hand; a common form of punishment.

- *In the US, the number of parents who **spank** their children has decreased over time. How do you feel about **spanking**?*

**to act up** - to misbehave.

- *The children started **acting up** only an hour into the car trip.*

**to give in** - to cease fighting; to allow; to yield.

- *She asked for the teddy bear about 10 times! Of course I **gave in**.*

**cranky** - irritable; in a bad mood.

- *Watch out, Chris hits other kids when he's **cranky**.*

**defiant** - disobedient.

- *The parents were so overwhelmed by their **defiant** son's behavior that they sent him to his room.*

**(to take) a nap** - brief period of sleep in the day.

- *She has to **take a nap** before we go out, otherwise she'll be cranky.*

**(to stack) blocks** - cube-shaped toys with flat sides.

- *The **blocks** had animals on one side and numbers and letters on the other sides. The kids had fun stacking them.*

**puzzle** - a game whose pieces can be connected and rearranged to create a picture.

- *We love doing **puzzles** to turn off our brains.*



**Play-doh** - a soft, colorful dough used for moulding.

- *We made the cutest penguin out of black, white and orange **Play-doh**.*

**action figure** - a character (such as a superhero), often made of plastic.

- *We got him a Captain America **action figure** for his birthday.*

**chalk** - a material (calcium carbonate) with which one can write or draw.

- *We bought some neon **chalk** and drew a hopscotch on the patio.*

**crayons** - a waxy material used to color/write/draw.

- *I hope **crayons** aren't toxic, Alex just ate half of one!*

**sprinklers** - a device that sprays water in small drops.

- *Can you turn on the **sprinklers**? The grass is dying.*

**to play pretend** - to play make believe; to take on different character roles.

- *They got out some old costumes and **played pretend**.*

**to bounce off the walls** - to move around with a log of energy. Often used to describe kids who have eaten too much sugar.

- *We shouldn't have gone out for ice cream so close to bedtime, the kids are **bouncing off the walls**.*

**to tuck (someone) in** - to make another person comfortable while they lay in bed before sleep. Involves pulling up the covers.

- *Can you come **tuck me** in, please?*

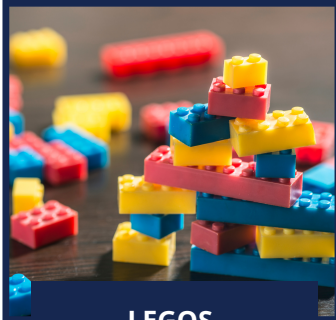
**lullaby** - a quiet, soothing song sung to young children before sleep.

- *It's relaxing, even as an adult, to listen to **lullabies**.*

**to drift off** - to fall asleep.

- *We drank a warm cup of milk and **drifted off** to sleep.*

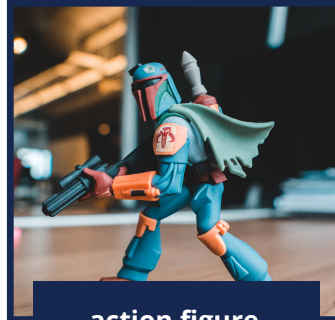
## VOCABULARY



LEGOS



Play-Doh



action figure



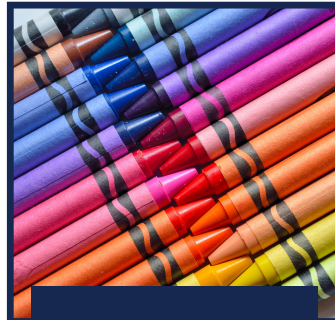
doll



to stack blocks



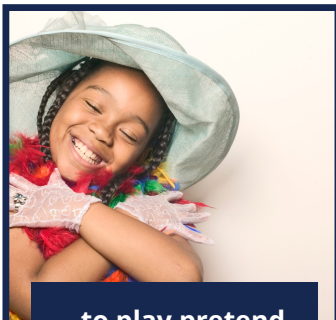
to draw



crayons



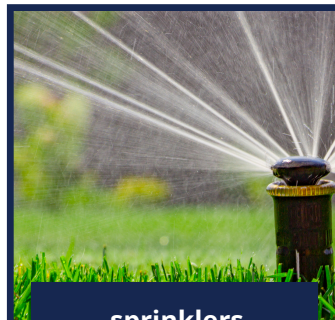
puzzle



to play pretend



chalk



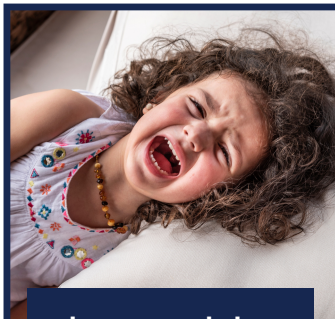
sprinklers



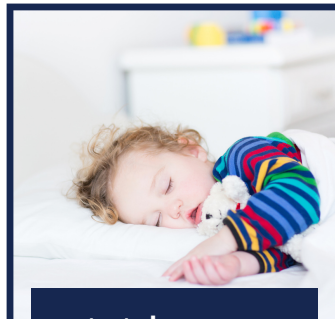
coloring book



to throw a tantrum



to have a meltdown



to take a nap



preschool