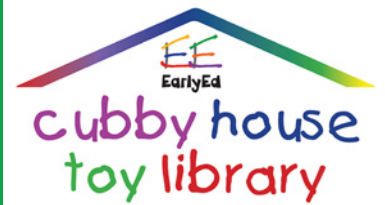


# Play and Engage



## Helping babies and toddlers learn to play

### RING STACKERS – in all their shapes and sizes

The ring stacker is a classic early years toy designed to support the development of fine motor skills. But there is so much more to this simple toy. It comes in all shapes and sizes, colours, with and without lights and sound – and is a very versatile toy for supporting your baby's motor, play & learning, language and social skills.



#### WHERE TO PLAY

**Sit on a supportive chair at a table or in a high chair.**

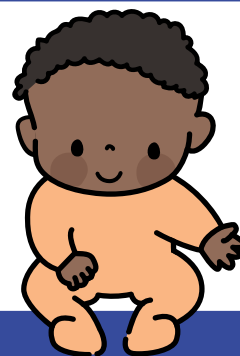


It gives more postural support. This allows them to release their hands for play rather than use them to support sitting.

Make sure they have support from the tray at their elbows. They can then stabilise themselves even more.



**Sit on the floor. Stacker between baby's legs.**



**Sit on the floor. Stacker beside baby.**

They can reach across their body.

#### **Stand or kneel at a couch or low table.**

Move the stacker just out of reach so they need to lean forwards and put weight through their arms to stabilise themselves.



Put some rings on the floor. Help them to crouch down and stand up with the ring.



**For information go to [www.earlyed.com.au/our-services/toy-library/](http://www.earlyed.com.au/our-services/toy-library/)**

Supporting Children With Additional Support Needs grant funded by Australian Government Department of Social Services

ARBN: 648 016 531 ABN: 42 096 307 200 CFN: 10570 Early Education (EarlyEd) Inc.

# Play and Engage



## Helping babies and toddlers learn to play

### WAYS TO PLAY



#### To encourage focus and attention.

Some children are really motivated by toys that use different sensory experiences like:

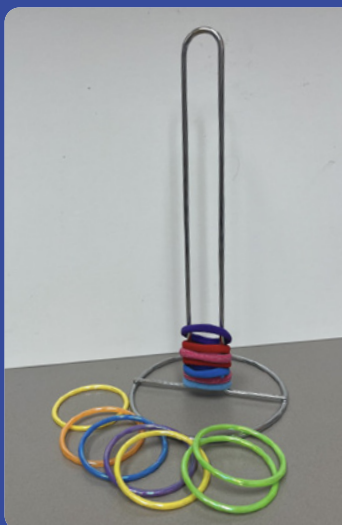
- stackers with music reward when you reach the top,
- rings that rattle when you shake them,
- sparkly scrunchies,
- stackers that match a child's interest like:
  - smiley faces,
  - rockets, trucks, animal stackers.

#### To develop their motor skills.

Stacker standing upright. Have rings lying flat on the floor to its sides. Help your child to look for a ring, then reach across, pick it up and place it on. (Getting just one on is a good start.)



Stacker stick lying down. Help your child look for the ring. Then help them stabilise the stick with one hand and slide the ring on with the other.



#### Other ways to play.

Use alternatives to the rings like bangles, scrunchies and hairbands and toilet rolls.

Present the rings:

- into their hands, flat or standing up sideways so they need to grasp it differently.
- to them up high or down low or to their side so they have to look and reach.

Start with thicker rings and as they gain skills, offer thinner rings.



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