Tickling

A laughing baby is one of life’s joys, and gentle tickling does make babies laugh. They love the element of surprise, the give and take between caregiver and baby, and the loving touch. However, keep tickling games short and gentle. Prolonged tickling can be highly unpleasant and overstimulating for children, even if they are laughing.

**Ideas & Tips**

- Walk your fingers up your baby’s arm. End with a gentle tickle under their armpit or on their nose.
- Chant “This Little Piggy” as you play with baby’s toes.
- Play with different textures. Gently brush your baby’s arm or leg, and then your arm or leg, with a feather, a scrap of fabric, a leaf, a cotton ball, or a wooden block. Describe how they feel, and how they are alike or different.
- Play “Peekaboo” with a light scarf. Run the scarf over your baby’s hands and feet. This helps babies realize that their arms and legs are attached to their bodies!
- Visit a park and walk barefoot on grass together. Talk about how grass feels on your feet.

**More Books**

- *Huggy Kissy* by Leslie Patricelli
- *More and More* by Emma Dodd
- *Ten Tiny Tickles* by Karen Katz
- *Tickle Time* by Sandra Boynton
- *Tickly Toes* by Susan Hood

Find more info, book suggestions and other activity sheets at [babybooks.pcls.us](http://babybooks.pcls.us)