

Uses items that belong to self and others respectfully and appropriately

Activity: Make clean-up a game. Ask baby to help you pick up toys and put them in the “hungry toybox.” Sing a song about cleaning up or keeping your toys safe as you put them away.

Why: This is a fun game to baby, but it helps baby begin to understand where items go, which is important for when they start to do things for themselves.



Activity: Babies are always reaching for objects you are holding. When it is safe, like a hairbrush or gloves, let them take it but show them how to hold and explore it gently. Talk about the object being yours, “This is daddy’s comb, he uses it to comb his hair. Can you hold it gently so it doesn’t fall or get dirty?”

Why: Letting baby hold items that belong to others will help them learn to be careful with others’ belongings. Talking about how to handle items helps them understand everything isn’t as tough as their toys and sometimes we have to be careful.