



TIPS FOR TUMMY TIME



Children First
Early Education



Tummy time is good for me because...

- My neck, shoulder, arm and back muscles will get stronger. I use these muscles to move around
- I can see the world from different angles, which helps my brain to develop
- It also prevents me from developing a flat spot on the head



As soon as I am born...

- Start supervised tummy time when I am awake, not too tired or hungry
- Offer supervised tummy time frequently during the day when I am awake
- Place me on my back for sleep (supine)

At the beginning I may be...

- Unsettled
- Just able to stay on my tummy for a minute or two during playtime

EASY START

Carry me over your...



Shoulder



Arm



Chest



Lap

I also enjoy other tummy positions.....



Bath time



Exercise Ball



Change table





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When I am 2-3 months I can...

- Stay on my tummy for 10-15 minutes
- Lift my head up and look around



KEY STRATEGIES

To ensure a fun and successful tummy playtime:

- Choose a comfortable time when your baby is awake, e.g. after a nappy change, bath or sleep
- Try a variety of tummy positions
- Interact with your baby, e.g. talking, singing, playing with musical toys or textured toys



Never leave your baby alone or unsupervised during tummy time

KEY POINTS TO REMEMBER

- Tummy time helps to strengthen baby's neck, shoulder and back muscles
- Tummy time helps to protect baby's head shape
- It is recommended you start tummy time from birth and practice regularly
- It is normal for babies to find tummy time difficult to begin with. Use a variety of different positions and tips listed to help them enjoy it more and get better at it
- Babies with large heads or those who were born early often find tummy time a little more difficult and may need more time to improve at it- practice makes perfect!
- You must always supervise your baby when they are on their tummy and during any tummy time positions

