

25 THINGS EVERY BABY WOULD WANT YOU TO KNOW





- 1. I MIGHT NOT BE THE BABY YOU IMAGINED BUT I'M A UNIQUE PERSON WITH MY OWN WAY OF BEING IN THE WORLD.
- 2. TAKE TIME TO GET TO KNOW ME MY LIKES, MY NEEDS, MY EXPRESSIONS, MY LITTLE WAYS...
- 3. IT WILL TAKE TIME FOR US TO GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER. I DON'T NEED YOU TO BE PERFECT, JUST TO KEEP TRYING.

RELATING TO ME

- 4. I AM READY TO INTERACT WITH YOU FROM THE MOMENT I'M BORN. INTERACTIONS GROW MY BRAIN.
- 5. I LOVE TO LOOK AT YOUR FACE AND HAVE CONVERSATIONS WITH YOU.
- 6. I ALSO LOVE IT WHEN YOU JUST SIT AND LISTEN TO THE NOISES I MAKE AND REFLECT THEM BACK TO ME.
- 7. WATCH FOR MY RESPONSE TO EVERYTHING THAT YOU SAY AND DO.



FOLLOWING AND PLAYING WITH ME



- 8. I LOVE IT WHEN YOU PLAY FOR ME, AND ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU TAKE TIME TO NOTICE WHAT I'M INTERESTED IN!
- 9. THE WORLD IS ALL NEW TO ME...HELP ME TO EXPLORE IT.
- 10. I REALLY ENJOY TURN-TAKING INTERACTIONS IN WHICH I GET TIME TO LOOK AWAY AND TAKE A BREAK.
- 11. RELAX AND ENJOY BEING WITH ME...THIS MAKES ME FEEL LOVED.

FEELING SAFE

- 12. I FEEL SAFE WHEN YOU ARE GENTLE AND PREDICTABLE.
- 13. I CAN FEEL WHEN YOU ARE ANGRY WITH ME.
- 14. IT'S OK TO ASK FOR HELP.
- 15. PLEASE LOOK AFTER YOURSELF...THIS WILL HELP YOU TO LOOK AFTER ME.



COMFORTING AND UNDERSTANDING ME



- 16. I DON'T YET USE WORDS, BUT I AM TRYING VERY HARD TO TELL YOU WHAT I NEED WITH MY ACTIONS;
- 17. GUESSING WHAT I AM NEEDING OR FEELING AND THEN SAYING IT ALOUD GENTLY CAN SOOTHE ME.
- 18. SOMETIMES YOU BEING WITH ME...YOUR SMELL, TOUCH AND WARMTH... IS ALL I NEED EVEN IF I DON'T STOP CRYING IMMEDIATELY.

SLEEP AND ME

- 19. PLEASE DON'T LEAVE ME TO CRY FOR A LONG TIME ON MY OWN. IF I CRY LOTS, I NEED YOU TO STAY WITH ME UNTIL I AM CALMER.
- 20. I LEARN FROM YOU SOOTHING ME. AS I GET OLDER, I'LL BE ABLE TO SOOTHE MYSELF BACK TO SLEEP.
- 21. SOMETIMES I WILL SLEEP FOR A LONG TIME, SOMETIMES FOR REALLY SHORT PERIODS IT DEPENDS WHAT'S GOING ON INSIDE ME. MY SLEEP PATTERNS WILL CHANGE A LOT AS I GROW!



TRANSITIONS & SEPARATIONS



- 22. WHEN YOU NEED TO LEAVE ME WITH SOMEONE, CHOOSE SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO BE WITH ME AND IS SAFE, ATTENTIVE AND KIND.
- 23. I WILL BE OKAY WHEN YOU LEAVE ME. I JUST NEED SOMEONE TO UNDERSTAND THAT PARTING IS HARD AND WILL HELP ME TO FEEL SAFE UNTIL YOU COME BACK.
- 24. WHEN YOU CAN LEAVE ME WITH THE RIGHT PERSON, I WILL BE FINE AND WE WILL BOTH FEEL HAPPY AND RELAXED WHEN WE SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN.

BRAIN GROWTH & HEALTH

25. MY BRAIN THRIVES ON LOVE, RESPONSIVE ATTENTION AND CALMNESS.





BABY'S BRAIN HEALTH = INFANT MENTAL HEALTH