

and should be doing constantly when around children of all ages. Thank the Lord for the privilege we have to be part of such a willing, wonderful family!

46. HE HAS GIVEN US IDEAL OPPORTUNITIES for working together in the education, preparation of materials, sharing of ideas and prayer and care for the kids. God bless Dad and Maria and Rachel, Deb, Mom, Sarah Ireland, Paul Theopolis, Esther David and others for their tremendous lessons and writings!

47. ACCOMPANIED BY HAPPY, SOOTHING MUSIC OR CASSETTES, he would bounce up and down in the Johnny-Jump-Up doorway swing



3½ months

and play with household items such as wooden spoons, paper bags, colourful paper, spools, cups and other things, that he could hold in his hand.

48. I DON'T REMEMBER THAT WE BOUGHT ANY BABY TOYS for him until he was several months old, and even then, he was still much

more interested in real objects and exploring colourful safe utensils and things we'd find around the house. (Besides, I would have felt silly handing him a baby rattle!—Ha!)

49. ONE OF HIS FAVOURITE TOYS for months was a small world globe! Rather than spend money on lots of toys that presented no challenge or teaching value, we instead invested in good educational equipment such as hanging mobiles, a music box, exercise pillow, bouncing swing, realistic posters and books that we could pass on to share with other babies after he outgrew them.

50. DURING HIS FIRST SIX MONTHS he'd make such amazing hand and facial expressions that you were SURE he was trying to talk to you! Davidito also became our "personality barometer".

51. TO EACH NEW PERSON, HE'D REACT in either a very positive or a very negative way. We often considered how a person would fit into our household staff according to Davidito's rating reaction when he met them!

52. IN THE EARLY MONTHS, PHYSICAL MOVEMENT is another way in which a baby develops his intelligence. He needs great freedom and opportunity to touch and move about, to handle objects, to reach, to grab and to learn to release.

53. DURING THE FIRST MONTH OF HIS LIFE, we tried to give Davidito the opportunity for touch-and-see play. Mommy suggested he lie on a blanket in a warm room on the floor so he could move his arms and legs about freely. This taught him to reach out for

things and to roll over on his own.

54. WE HUNG TOYS and objects from the sides of his crib so he could bat at and look at them, and he enjoyed very much listening to nice, soothing music. Daddy came home from a shopping trip one day with a beautiful Japanese musical clock which Davidito loved for many months.

55. WE LET HIM EXPERIMENT FREELY and work at coordinating his eyes and hands so that when he would reach for an object, he was free to bang it, taste it, shake it, and use it in any way that was safe. Dad often commented how amazing it is that children at such a young age enjoy repetitions, imitating and peek-a-boo games.

56. AT TWO MONTHS OLD WE CHANGED BEDS from the closed-in baby bassinette type to a travel-bed, so that he could look out the side panels and have more to see. He played for longer times on his tummy this way because he had full vision of the room while playing alone in his bed.

57. ANOTHER VERY WORTHWHILE BOOK which undoubtedly contributed such to Davidito's physical coordination and strength during the early months of his life, is "Exercises for Your Baby", by Janine Levy. Lydia began working with Davidito on these motor development exercises when he was not quite three months old, so that by the time he was four-and-a-half months old, he could easily stand alone and hold onto a chair!

58. IT'S IMPORTANT TO NOTE that we never pushed him beyond his own physical capacities. If

a small baby is ready to pull himself up to stand with your help, he'll work to achieve that as hard as he can.



4 months

59. THIS AUTHOR SUGGESTS using a long firm cylinder-shaped pillow to prop right under the chest and arms when the baby is lying on his tummy. This will encourage him to push with his legs in



4½ months