

Starting Steps



Faith Activities for Families with Toddlers

Starting Steps is for families to use at home. It encourages you in your faith-journey and parenting. Use the ideas here and on the *Starting Steps* calendar throughout the week to extend and reinforce what your child learned.

At This Age

Two year olds love to run—usually in the opposite direction of where you want them to go! Giving boundaries and setting expectations before going places, such as a playground, can be helpful. It also provides safety.

- Explain basic guidelines each time they are used. For example, “We’re in a parking lot. We always hold hands in a parking lot.”
- Teach your child what the boundaries are around your home.
- When appropriate and safe, let your child run and enjoy freedom from boundaries.
- Always keep your child well supervised.

Time with God

A house with a two year old in it can be filled with many moments of laughter. We can laugh with a child when she tries new experiences. We may giggle with him when new sayings are attempted. Some days are filled with fun times that we would like to capture forever.

Philippians 4:4 gives us another reason to be happy.

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

Even on days where there is little laughter in our lives, we can find joy in the Lord. Take a few minutes each day to smile just because God loves you. Then, enjoy the other happy moments of laughter in your house.

Toddler Tickler

Press Here

On a recent trip to the park, I showed my two year old the goats. I explained that the projections on their heads were called “horns.” She looked up at me and asked, “How make ’em beep?”



Linda Watkins, Orange, Conn.
© *Christian Parenting Today*.
Reprinted with permission.

Time with Your Toddler



God Made Big Animals based on Genesis 1:24-25

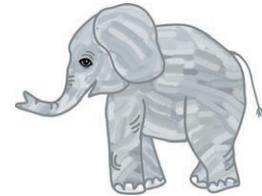
This week's Bible story is "God Made Big Animals." Read the story from here and Bible storybooks many times—toddlers like and need repetition to learn.

The Bible tells us that God made big animals.

(Stretch up tall.)

God made the big, gray elephant that swings its trunk.

(Put arms together and swing them like a trunk.)



God made the big giraffe with the long, long neck.

(Point to your neck.)



God made big animals like the horse who says, "Neigh."

(Whinny like a horse.)

God made them all.

(Point up.)

Only God could make the big animals. God made big animals.

These questions can be used to help your child review the Bible story.

1. What did God make? (Big animals)
2. Who made big animals? (God)

Look what I made!



During craft time today your child used paper shapes and glue to create her own animal. Ask your child to tell you about the animal that was made.