

## Curriculum Share

DRDP PD-HLTH 3: Gross Motor  
Manipulative Skills Age Group:  
Toddler

## Round up the balls game for toddlers

Developmental information:

Gross Motor Manipulative Skills

Child shows increasing  
proficiency in gross motor  
manipulative skills (e.g.,  
reaching, kicking, grasping,  
throwing, and catching)



**round up  
the balls**  
a simple game for toddlers



Source: I can teach my child  
Link:

<https://www.icanteachmychild.com/round-balls-game-toddlers/>

Your toddler can gain a lot from playing with large, lightweight balls such as a kickball or a beach ball. Simple things, like discovering the effects of kicking, bouncing, throwing, or rolling a ball all support development. Free play with a ball can spark critical thinking skills and creativity. What can I do with this ball? How hard can I throw it? How high can I throw it? Can I catch it? As your child experiments with all of the different ways they can interact with the ball, they are building motor skills, spatial skills, and eye-hand coordination. Remember that playing simple ball activities, such as rolling or kicking the ball back and forth, isn't only great for development, but also helps build critical social skills such as turn-taking, sharing, and following rules.



## ROUND UP THE BALLS GAME FOR TODDLERS

This activity is great for teaching positional words, such as “in” and “out” as well as teaching your toddler to follow 1-step directions.

Here’s what you’ll need: a hula hoop (or two if doing this activity with older toddlers), and several balls.

1. Place the hula hoop in the center of the yard and scatter the balls within a 10 foot diameter of the hula hoop.
2. Ask your toddler to put all of the balls in the circle (hula hoop).



3. Next, instruct your toddler to put the balls out of the hoop.

For toddlers who are 2 years and over, you can modify/extend the activity by using 2 hula hoops and having them sort the balls into big and small.

