

itty-bitty art

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ART

Stretch and Crawl

Go, baby, go! While it can be nice to cuddle up with some calming art before bedtime, art can also play a key role in your baby's busiest moments. Read, scoot, and stretch your minds and bodies while spending quality time with action-packed Carter artworks. Let's get going!

Ready to Ride

Whoooooa there! The rider in Erwin Smith's photograph *The Bronc in Action, The Bronco Buster* is working hard to stay on his horse! You and your infant can enjoy a bit of horseplay, too, using your lap. Start by having tummy time on your lap, gently moving your legs to help your infant stay balanced. As your infant's muscles grow, help them sit up in your lap, rock them back and forth, have them balance on one of your legs, and even take a ride on a wiggly knee! Lap time is great fun at every stage of growth.

Pulling Up

The child in Helen M. Post's photograph [*Children playing on jungle gym*] pulled herself up to the top of the jungle gym using her strong muscles! As your baby develops more core and leg strength and gets closer to walking, they might start exercising their muscles and testing their balance by pulling up on furniture. Why not set up your own indoor playground? Arrange your furniture and baby-safe push toys into a fun-filled obstacle course and encourage your baby to walk, crawl, or scoot between each station. Celebrate at the end with snuggles and a story!

Everybody Dance Now!

Let's dance like Martha Graham! Create the whirling, twirling shape of the skirt in Barbara Morgan's photograph *Martha Graham – Letter to the World (Swirl)* by waving around lightweight scarves, blankets, ribbons, or other fabric scraps. Swoosh the fabric around your baby, dance while holding your baby, and let them hold their own fabric to swirl when they're ready! Looking for more fun baby games? Check out the [Baby Games & Milestones Calendar](#) from Pathways.

Reading Aloud

[Babies Around the World: Dancing by Tamara Barker](#)

[Shake, Wiggle, & Roll by Carli Davidson](#)

[Dance ¡Bailo! By Carol Thompson](#)

[Move by Elizabeth Verdick and Marjorie Lisovskis](#)

[Ten little toes, two small feet = Diez deditos de los pies, dos piecitos by Kristi Dempsey](#)

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Barbara Morgan (1900–1992)
Martha Graham – Letter to the World (Swirl), 1940, printed 1972
Gelatin silver print

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© Barbara and Willard Morgan photographs and papers, Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young
Research Library, UCLA
P1974.21.17



Helen M. Post (1907–1979)
[Children playing on jungle gym], 1941
Gelatin silver print

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Erwin E. Smith (1886–1947)
The Bronc in Action. The Bronco Buster., 1905–12
Lithograph

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