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Chapter 2: Learning About Children—Glossary

babysitting. Caring for children, usually during a short absence of the parents.

caregiver. A person who takes care of children.

childproof. To make an area safe for children by keeping potential dangers away from them.

confident. Being sure of yourself.

cooperate. To act or work together with others.

dependent. Relying on another for support.

discipline. The use of various methods to help children learn to behave in acceptable ways.

gifted. A child who has developed more quickly than other children the same age.

guidance. Everything parents do and say to affect their children's behavior.

infant. A child under one year of age.

intellectual disability. A condition that limits a person's ability to use his or her mind.

learning. Gaining information or skills through engaging in play that provides hands-on materials.

limits. Boundaries or restrictions.

newborn. A term used to describe a baby from birth to one month of age.

no stage. Toddler stage when they answer *no* to almost everything.

Palmar (grasping) reflex. When babies grasp any object placed in their hands.

parallel play. Type of play in which toddlers play near, but not with, one another.

physical disability. A condition that limits a person's ability to use part of his or her body.

preschooler. A child between the ages of three and five years.

reflex. A natural, unlearned behavior.

rooting reflex. When you touch babies around their mouths, their heads turn, and their mouths search for food.

separation anxiety. A child's fear that if parents leave, they will not return.

sucking reflex. When newborns find objects with their mouths.

Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS). The sudden, unexpected death of a baby who seems healthy.

time-out. A guidance technique in which a child is moved away from others to a place where he or she must sit quietly.

toddler. A child between the ages of one and three years.