



up again!

5. FOR A FUN ART PROJECT, WE DREW A PICTURE OF THE YARD ON A HUGE PIECE OF WRAPPING PAPER laid out on the floor. We glued objects onto the drawn pictures, such as a sunflower in the garden, his face cut out from a photo sitting in his little red car, added



little decal pictures of tomatoes in the garden for plants, and glued real leaves on the palm tree. We stayed busy for one whole hour on this mural, even with interruptions! I added a big word under familiar objects in the picture too, and posted it on the wall.

6. WE ALSO MADE A POSTER ABOUT "DAYTIME AND NIGHTTIME". We cut

out and glued from shiny paper shapes of the sun, moon and stars, then glued pictures under each sign to show what he does in the day and in the nighttime. He likes to put the glue on the back of the pictures and then turn them over and place them on the paper all by himself. I think he understood the concept of "morning and evening" from this little project.

7. I FREQUENTLY CUT OUT PICTURES HE CHOOSES FROM MAGAZINES AND CATALOGUES, since he likes to use the glue so much. I also like to use real photos of him on his own posters and books as much as possible; the more "personalised" the project, the more interest he shows!

8. FOR ANOTHER ART PROJECT, WE SCRUBBED A FEW POTATOES and stuck toothpicks into the back, adding four legs to make a porcupine. I wrote on a potato its Spanish word "papa" and set it on the shelf so he can learn to read the word by sight.

9. HE LOVES THE LITTLE FINGER GAME SONG, "Porcupines have prickly quills, don't go near their favourite hills, if you do you'll have bad luck, 'cuz you surely will get stuck!" (Dance all five open fingers as you sing.)

10. DAVIDITO AND ALFRED PUT UP A BIG SHLEK TENT TOGETHER in the back yard. Some of our friends spent the night in the tent afterwards, and it also came in handy as an extra love room! PTL!

11. ONE DAY DADDY CALLED FOR DAVIDITO TO COME OUT TO THE GARDEN HOUSE where he showed him a giant Egyptian moth nesting on the bamboo curtain, and explained to him all about moths.

12. IN THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT CHART, WE FOUND THAT FOR 18 MONTHS OLD HE IS QUITE ADVANCED mentally, which means physically too, in many ways. For example, he can walk or run on his tiptoes and sit cross-legged. He can also stand on one leg with arms outstretched for a long period of time, and carry large toys and objects about very easily.



Words on wall; books at 10 mos!

13. BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS!--IT SEEMS HE NEVER GETS HIS FILL! The majority of our "school" time is always spent looking through picture books and readers and discussing the things that he points out. Besides his little cars and a few puzzles, there are very few things he would prefer to play with or spend his time doing than looking at books.

14. WHEN YOU COMPARE THE PRICE OF GOOD, COLOURFUL, DURABLE CHILDREN'S BOOKS to that of many of the toys on the market today, they cannot compare in either educational value or durability and quality. Good books are so much more conducive to learning than even some of the cheap "educational" toys you can buy, and because they are lightweight, easily provisioned or donated, and usually last through several children, there is hardly anything more worthwhile for small

children, even at this young age of 1½ years and on!

15. OF COURSE, SOME TODDLER EDUCATIONAL TOYS HAVE SEVERAL LEARNING QUALITIES and reasonable prices that are worth your investment, such as coloured or wooden building blocks, shapes-in-slots box, and push-pull carry toys, such as a small sturdy wagon, truck or doll pram. When purchasing or making your toddler's toys, consider first their learning and safety values, durability and practicality for traveling along with you.



16. DAVIDITO AT 18 MONTHS ESPECIALLY LOVES TO LOOK AT BIG PICTURE DICTIONARIES WITH BUSY, DETAILED ACTION PICTURES of every subject of the alphabet. Even though some authors' illustrated books, such as Richard Scarry (by Collins) and Dr. Seuss, have animals depicted as people and are not realistic, they are full of colourfully-detailed fun and action scenes of real life work and play, which are sure to gain a little child's interest and increase his vocabulary and skills in telling stories on his own! Davidito always loved them, as well as most any kind of Children's Picture Book. We still use them even now, at nearly 4, to discuss in Spanish and increase