

# The Science Behind Potty Duck™

How a research-based toy is changing potty training

<p><b>Potty Duck gives children the chance to...</b></p>	<p><b>Sources</b> (Early child development)</p>												
<p><b>Learn through play</b> Children help the duck to pee to learn how to go themselves.</p>	<p><b>Importance of play in learning</b> (Ginsburg, 2007—NIH Study) (Bock and Johnson, 2004) (Pellegrini and Bjorkland, 2004)</p>												
<p><b>Imitate an example</b> Children are great imitators. Potty Duck allows children to directly visualize peeing which they can't see when a person is seated.</p>	<p><b>Importance of imitation in learning</b> (Buttleman, 2013) (Gergely, Bekkering, Kiraly, 2002) (Meltzoff, 1999—NIH Study)</p>												
<p><b>Practice new skills</b> Potty Duck lets children practice their toilet skills before using the real thing.</p>	<p><b>Importance of practice and repetition</b> (Fischer, 1980)</p>												
<p><b>Learn new words</b> Children learn essential words and phrases while playing: Pee, Flush, Go Potty, Bathroom</p>	<p><b>Importance of language development in learning</b> (Whitehead, 2010) (Bloom, 1988)</p>												
<p><b>Relate to a buddy</b> Children have a lovable duck for a learning companion. Children have enjoyed rubber ducks for generations!</p>	<p><b>Importance of a relatable character</b> (Therrell, 2002) (Azrin and Foxx, 1974—toilet training study)</p>												
<p><b>Use multiple senses</b> Children learn using sight, sound, touch.</p>	<p><b>Importance of multisensory learning</b> Patterson &amp; Werker (2003) Bahrck &amp; Picken (1988)</p>												
<p><b>Learn with a caring adult alongside</b> Children receive information better when guided by a trusted adult.</p>	<p><b>Importance of a trusted adult guide</b> (Kuhl, 2007) (Shonkoff and Phillips, 2000)</p>												
<p><b>Foster overall development</b> Potty Duck promotes self-esteem, sequential thought processing, fine motor skills, and imaginative play.</p> <p>Play-based potty training with Potty Duck is: Experiential Kinesthetic Interactive Discovery-based Purposeful Memorable Exploratory Practice-based.</p>	<p><b>Potty Duck's developmental skills assessment by National Lekotek Center:</b> Potty Duck visit <a href="http://www.ableplay.org">www.ableplay.org</a>.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>DEVELOPMENTAL SKILL</th> <th>RATING (1-5)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Physical</td> <td>★★★★</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sensory</td> <td>★★★★★</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Communicative</td> <td>★★★★★</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cognitive</td> <td>★★★★★</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social/Emotional</td> <td>★★★★★</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	DEVELOPMENTAL SKILL	RATING (1-5)	Physical	★★★★	Sensory	★★★★★	Communicative	★★★★★	Cognitive	★★★★★	Social/Emotional	★★★★★
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# Potty Duck vs. Potty Dolls

	Potty Duck	Potty Dolls
Effective for potty training	●	●
Children help toy to pee on a potty	●	●
Easier for little hands to play with and manipulate	●	○
Easier to <a href="#">squeeze, aim, and control</a> the toy to make it pee, again and again	●	○
Comes with a fun to <a href="#">flush toilet</a>	●	○
Children more easily see and hear water flow	●	○
<b>American Academy of Pediatrics, primary author of guidelines for potty training, recommends it (Dr. Schmitt)</b>	●	○
Attractive for <a href="#">boys and girls</a>	●	○
No clothes to remove	●	○
Toy doesn't leak water when it isn't supposed to	●	○
Gradual learning: Children can begin learning before they are ready (see age range)	●	○
<b>Made by a pediatrician following guidelines of the American Academy of Pediatrics</b>	●	○
Convenience: Learning during playtime	●	○
Flexibility: Toy works in a bath, sink, water table, or a small plastic tub, or anywhere using imaginary play	●	○
Recommend age	1+	2+

## What parents and experts are saying

"Our daughter started playing with the Potty Duck when she was 18 months old. Before she turned two she was asking to use the potty all on her own. The Potty Duck was a fun way for her to gain interest in toilet training all on her own."

- Maria Z., Racine, Wisconsin

"Potty Duck really helped my son with potty training. He had been hesitant and scared to sit on a potty before. Potty Duck helped him learn and better understand what to do in a fun way. We showed him how to squeeze the duck and flush the potty while he was playing in the bath tub. He played with it in the bath for awhile and then soon he was going potty!!! It was not stressful for him but a very smooth and fun process! I would definitely recommend Potty Duck for any child learning to potty train!!!!"

-Jessica W., San Antonio, Texas

"On our very first evening after playing with the duck and potty in the tub for awhile, my 2 year old stood up and told me she had to go potty. I took her out of the tub and put her on the potty and she peed for the very first time!"

-Monica B., Lindenhurst, Illinois

"Our son is now fully potty trained, and we are very thankful for the help of the toy! He really did enjoy playing with Potty Duck and it gave him some motivation to use the potty consistently. Sometimes he pretended that Duckie was peeing and sometimes he would pretend that Duckie was pooping, or he would take him to other places around the house just to play."

- Jeff E., Lititz, Pennsylvania

"After playing with it several times in the bath tub, my daughter was able to make it work. Now every morning when she gets up and uses the potty. Where can I write a review?"

-Keosha S., Waukegan, Illinois, Mom of 18 month old

"After training my older daughter without the help of a potty training toy, I would highly recommend Potty Duck. Potty Duck helped my son by making the toilet more familiar - it wasn't strange or scary. I used a seat on the real toilet (didn't want to do the potty seat thing again) which is less inviting but with Potty Duck's help he was much more willing to sit on it. It took my daughter a lot longer to catch on to the idea of peeing when I sat her on the potty. My son got it right away, thanks to Potty Duck. We love the toy being interactive and fun in the bath. Even my older daughter enjoys playing with it."

– Micah R., Libertyville, Illinois

"[My daughter] likes it a lot. I'd advise starting it a few months before potty training begins to teach the concept of the duckie going pee-pee in the potty."

– Amy P., Miami, Florida

"Using this toy makes toilet training fun. My daughter's favorite part of going potty is flushing the toilet. This toy lets her have that pleasure over and over again."

– Margaret C., Libertyville, Illinois

"Thank you for providing a fun toy for potty training. Potty Duck makes my life easier because it helps children get comfortable with using the bathroom."

– Mary Ann M., pre-school teacher, South Bend, Indiana

## Comments from experts

"Potty Duck is the most magical potty training motivator available today. I recommend Potty Duck in my potty training workshops and in my pediatric advice protocols for pediatricians and nurses."

– Barton Schmitt, MD, FAAP, author of the American Academy of Pediatrics guidelines for potty training

"When children are having fun and playing, learning is always easier. They get the concepts. The Potty Duck is a great toy that promotes learning through play and fun."

– Lee Scott, early education expert and Chairperson, Goddard School Education Advisory Board

**“Potty Duck raises children’s awareness of how their body works. It also helps motivate children to control their body’s need to go to the bathroom by putting them in control of the duck and its toilet.”**

**– John Petersen, PsyD**

**Child and family psychologist**

**"Keep special toilet books and toys (such as my new favorite, Potty Duck) near the potty."**

**– PocketOT, Cara Koscinski**

**Pediatric occupational therapist**

**"Potty Duck is a creative and fun way to help children learn and build confidence while potty training through pretend play, modeling, and imagination."**

**–Developmental toy evaluators at AblePlay, the National Lekotek Center**

**“Children can learn through kinesthetic, auditory, and visual learning styles, which are respectively synonymous with physical touch, hearing, and seeing. Potty Duck is a great toy that fortunately incorporates all three of these simultaneously.”**

**– Amy Baez, OT at [playapy.com](http://playapy.com)**

**Pediatric occupational therapist**

**"The concept of a supportive and fun toy for potty training is both novel and ingenious."**

**– Michael Cocchiola, Board Certified Behavior Analyst/ Education Consultant**