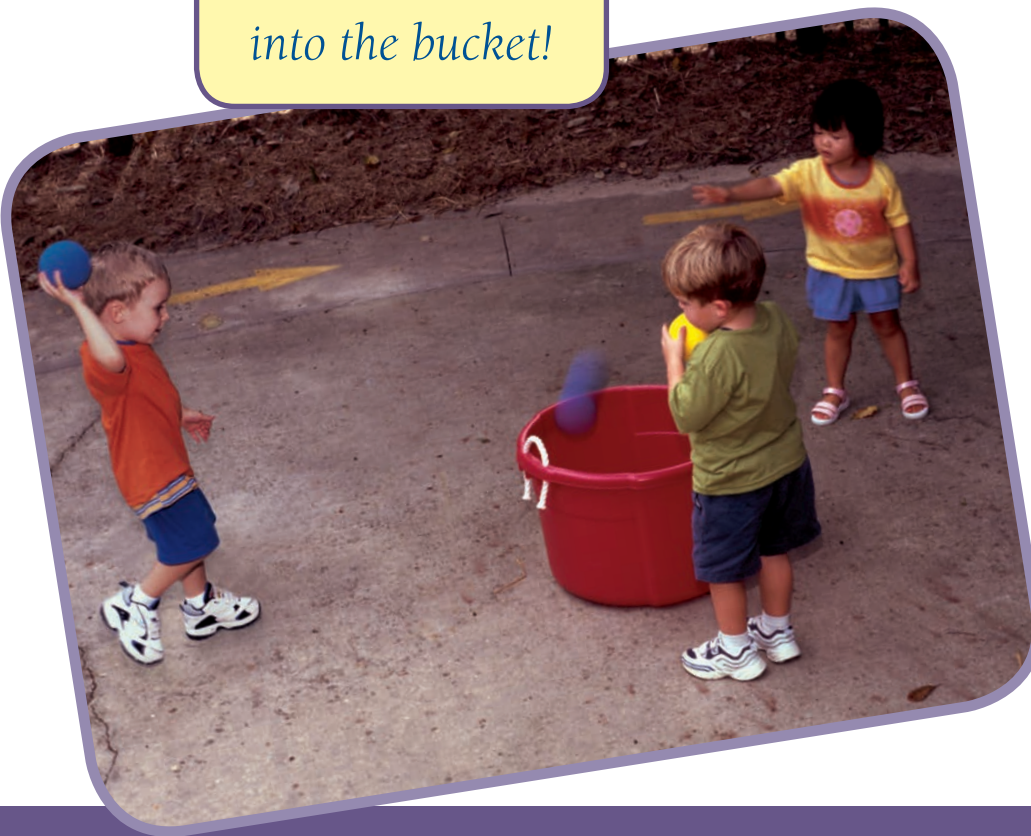


# Ball in the Bucket

*Wow! You  
threw the ball  
into the bucket!*



With your child, practice throwing a ball into a bucket. Increase the throwing distance as his skills improve.

Gradually, your child will gain more control in throwing.



## Why this is important

By this age, children are well aware that throwing is usually done with a purpose, as in basketball or other sports. Throwing a ball at a large target helps your child learn to control and direct his own body movements. He must control his body in order to perform this or other specific actions.

## What you do

- Provide a container such as a box, basket, tub, or bucket, a ball for your child, and a ball for yourself.
- Invite your child to stand with you a few feet away from the bucket.
- Throw your ball into the bucket as your child does the same. *Watch me throw the ball. Can you do it, too?*
- Move the bucket closer to him if he misses, and encourage him to try again.
- Describe his accuracy when appropriate: *You're getting it right where you want it!*
- Change the game by adding water to the bucket.

## Ready to move on?

You can increase the difficulty by moving the bucket farther away or finding a container with a smaller opening.

### Let's read together!

*The Story of Red Rubber Ball*  
by Constance Kling Levy