



*Getting Ready* To Grow...

Little David Russo wasn't even born, but this room (and the one you'll see on the next page!) were already in the works.

## ...A Well-Planned Boy's Room



When Lisa Russo began designing a room that was all boy, she wanted it to last. The planes, trains and horses were thoughtfully chosen to grow with her baby as he became a full-fledged big boy.



When little David was just a glimmer in Lisa Russo's eye, she was already thinking about his big boy room. Sound improbable? Its not when you're working with a nursery designer like Dilly Dally owner, Angela Krause. "When we began work on David's nursery, we were already thinking about which furniture we'd keep. It's important to think about, when you're investing in quality furniture. We knew we wanted to keep all of the furniture except the crib."

Angela and Lisa decided where they'd place the furniture first and designed the mural to fill in around the pieces. "Furniture is typically the biggest expense in the room," says Krause. "It has the most longevity, so it's important to plan around the furniture."

"I get a lot of satisfaction knowing that we planned ahead, did the hard work in the beginning. It made the transition to a big-boy room easy. I always know that the hard work has paid off when the parents come back in and all they order is a new bed and new bedding." In 2001, two years after the initial nursery design, Lisa and her husband were back at Dilly Dally, to order the big-boy bed and bedding that matched the existing nursery window treatments.

What's everybody's favorite piece in the room? "The whole room!" says Lisa. "It makes me smile every time I walk in. David just loves it." But big-boy David has a much more specific favorite – his big-boy bed. Because, of course, he's a big boy now.

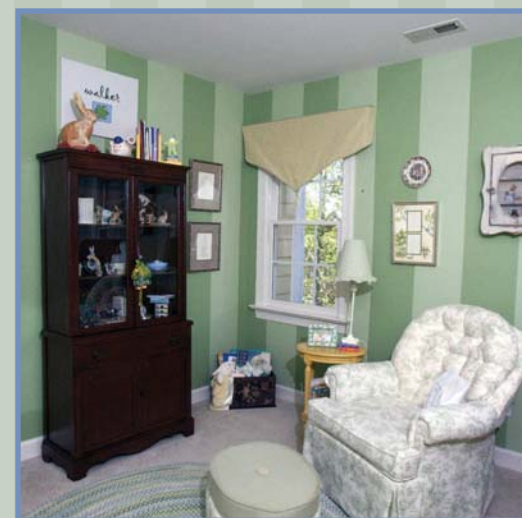
PHOTOS: [www.elizabethgalecke.com](http://www.elizabethgalecke.com)

## Old Meets New: An Eclectic Nursery

Eric and Tiffany Penley wanted to incorporate new pieces with antiques to create the perfect nursery. They did it. Twice.



PHOTOS: [www.zebstarnes.com](http://www.zebstarnes.com)



Eric and Tiffany Penley's first step in nursery planning was to enlist the help of designer, Jennifer Cargile. "They didn't want to find out whether they were having a boy or a girl, so we had to keep the room very gender neutral."

The couple had a couple of family pieces that they wanted to integrate. The mahogany china cabinet belonged to Tiffany's grandmother, and she hoped it would house all the baby's collectibles and treasures. In addition, Tiffany also had a small collection of bunnies that she wanted to include.

The couple knew they liked green, so together with Jennifer they chose a shade and decided on the striped wall treatment. Because dad is a quite handy and wanted to be involved, he painted the room's walls. "It went smoothly," said Jennifer. "He's an engineer."

They chose a mahogany crib to coordinate with the china cabinet, but then moved away from the dark furniture. They chose a painted piece in distressed light yellow for the changing table. "I like mixing different types, styles and colors of furniture," says Jennifer. "I think it's great to blend new pieces with antiques. The room looks like it was collected over time, not just thrown together."

Baby Walker loves his rocker and glider. It's the spot where mom and dad read stories to him. And mom loves her green toile and yellow check linens and window treatments. In fact, everyone loves the room so much, that when the couple moved from the Oberlin Road area to Raleigh's Bridgeton Park, they re-created the entire room. From the stripes on the walls, to the window treatments, bedding and furniture, they duplicated everything possible. At only ten months old, little Walker has had the perfect room for him; twice.