

2 Years

Guide to Developmental Milestones



Social Emotional Development / Behavior

- Child is aware of self as separate from others; begins to identify self and others in person and in photos
- Feels safe in intimate relationship
- Begins to understanding social expectations
- ??? will inspire acts of assertiveness and defiance
- Openly expresses moods, emotions and desires
- Begins reciprocal play with peers (closer to 3 years)
- Has internal dilemma between being with caregiver and being independent
- Uses physical aggression with peers (pushing, hitting, biting)
- Engages in pretend play
- Presence of “magical thinking” versus reality
- Calms self with familiar comfort items



Gross Motor Skills

- Stands on one foot for 1-2 seconds
- Throws a ball 5 feet
- Walks down stairs without support
- Runs while avoiding obstacles
- Jumps over an object 2 inches high
- Climbs ladders and playground equipment
- Catches a large ball
- Jumps backwards
- Experiments with walking on tiptoes
- Begins to ride a tricycle
- Hops on one foot 3 times



Fine Motor Skills

- Holds crayon with thumb and fingers
- Progresses from random scribbling to somewhat more controlled movements
- Stacks 6-9 small blocks
- Attempts to color in large forms
- Draws a circle



Sensory

- Enjoys water and sand play
- Enjoys tactile books

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Self-help

- Puts shoes on with help
- Helps put things away
- Undresses with assistance
- Indicates if he/she is wet/soiled
- Understands and stays away from common dangers (i.e., stairs, glass, strange animals)
- Unwraps food
- Holds spoon with hand in palm up position
- Helps with bathing, brushing teeth
- Unbuttons large buttons



Speech and Hearing

- 50% understandable to a stranger
- Uses most vowels correctly
- Emerging consonants include: p, b, t, d, m, n, w, h
- Has around 200 words in speaking vocabulary
- Consonants are becoming more consistent



Language

- Uses child grammar
- Answers yes and no correctly
- Listens to simple stories
- Uses pronouns for self (I, me)
- Forms some plurals by adding -s (such as toy, toys)
- Understands simple questions and commands
- Understands more words than they can say
- Understands simple prepositions (in, on)
- Responds to greetings consistently
- Uses phrases of 3-5 words by end of second year



Oral Motor and Feeding

- Easily drinks from a cup
- Swallows solid foods with a combination of textures
- Feeding skills are becoming similar to an adult's



All children develop at their own pace, but you can use this guide to help you know what to look for along the way. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your infant's/child's development, please contact **Milestones For Kids' Success** at **630.792.1800** for a FREE developmental screening.

Disclaimer: This content was created by Milestones For Kids' Success and represents research available as of 10/2007. The information is intended to inform and educate. It is not a replacement for medical evaluation, advice, diagnosis or treatment by a healthcare professional.

