



### 3 Years

- Strings small beads
- Imitates adults doing simple tasks
- Snips with scissors
- Matches shapes
- Matches colors
- Shows circle, square, triangle on request
- Knows if they are a boy or a girl
- Beginning to learn from listening
- Recognizes plurals, gender pronouns, adjectives
- Can talk with others
- Still has some trouble with sentence structure
- Speaks in 3-4 words sentences

- New sounds mastered – m, p, n, h, w
- 90-100% of speech is readily understood
- Rides a tricycle 10 feet
- Walks up/down stairs one foot after the other
- Jumps from bottom step
- Doesn't like to be bothered during activities
- May copy parent in household tasks
- Clings to favorite toys or bland

### 4 Years

- Puts together 5-7 piece puzzle
- Draws head of a person and one other body part
- Builds a tower of 10 blocks
- Counts to 5
- Copies a circle
- Gives full name on request
- Names 3 colors
- Carries out more commands with 2-3 actions
- Language is fairly complete in structure and form



- Uses a sentence length of 4-5 words
- Tells a story and mostly stays on topic
- Asks "who?" and "why?" questions
- Says 2,000 words
- New sounds mastered – d, g, k, f, y
- 100% of speech readily understood
- Skips 6-7 steps
- Runs 15 feet, coordinating arms/legs
- Throws a ball 10 feet
- Hops on one foot



### 5 Years



- Draws a square
- Puts together 8-10 piece puzzles
- Draws a person with 3-4 body parts
- Counts 10 objects
- Says ABC's
- Puts objects-beside, behind, front, back, etc.
- Names 8 colors
- Recognizes numerals 0-10

- Responds correctly to more difficult sentences
- Knows common opposites
- Uses all types of sentences, including some complex sentences
- Incorrect sentence forms still occur
- Has a sentence length of 5-6 words
- Says 2,500 words
- Gallops 8-10 feet
- Kicks a ball 12 feet into air
- Catches bounced ball
- Likes to compete in games
- May talk back if he/she doesn't get their way
- May become bossy
- Makes decisions easily



**If you have questions or concerns about your child's development discuss them with your child's physician, contact your local school district, or call one of the following numbers:**

**402-441-6710 - Early Development Network**  
**402-436-1905 - LPS Early Childhood Special Education**

Remember, you as a parent or caregiver are the most important person in your child's life. It is never too early to begin to help our child learn and achieve to the best of his or her ability.

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# DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONES

## AGES BIRTH TO 5 YEARS

### Motor Skills

### Social Skills



### Thinking Skills

### Speech Skills

This brochure provides information to parents and caregivers about the developmental stages that take place from birth through five years of age.

Most children will have achieved the skills listed by the ages indicated. If your child has not achieved several of the skills listed, or seems to be having difficulty learning them, he or she may need extra help or early intervention.

Your school district is responsible for evaluation and identification of children in need of services, at no cost to parents.

As you refer to the age ranges and skills indicated, note that children develop at different rates and that the ages indicated are only guidelines.





# Developmental Milestones

## Birth to 6 Months



- Turns head side to side on tummy
- Holds head up while on stomach
- Kicks legs
- Rolls from stomach to back
- Looks to face of others
- Cries to make needs/wants known
- Coos/goos in response to adults speech
- Grasps toys and rattles
- Eyes follow objects
- Watches face of person speaking
- Begins rattle play
- Responds to voice and sound
- Smiles laughs when spoken to

## 6 to 12 Months

- Rolls from back to stomach
- Sits by self (may use hands to support self)
- Holds head/chest up on forearms
- Gets to hand/knees position
- Imitates Pat-a-cake and Peek-a-boo
- Becomes fearful of strangers/new situations
- Smiles at self in mirror
- Transfers objects from one hand to other
- Bangs objects, held in each hand, together
- Removes objects from container
- Bats/swings at hanging toys
- Finds a toy or object hidden by a cloth
- Begins familiar games
- Responds to specific person
- Understands “no”
- Responds to “bye-bye”
- Babbles (“baba-baba”)
- Enjoys imitating sounds
- First words appear
- 5-6 word vocabulary by 12 months



## 12 to 18 Months

- Creep on hands and knees
- Walks holding onto furniture
- Walks with one hand held
- Takes 2-3 steps by self
- Shows likes/dislikes for certain people, etc
- Waves bye-bye
- Likes being center of attention
- Gives toy when requested
- Enjoys music and dancing
- Picks up small objects with thumb and index finger
- Places toy/objects with thumb and index finger
- Places toys/objects into containers
- Attempts to stack 2 blocks
- Looks to familiar people and objects when named
- Dumps objects in/out of containers
- Puts a round block into a 3-piece puzzle
- Enjoys looking at books/pictures
- Points to one body part when named
- Understands simple commands and no-nos
- Babbles with raised and lowered voice
- Uses single word sentences
- Uses exclamation “oh-oh” – “no-no’s”
- 10-15 word vocabulary by 18 months



## 18 to 24 Months

- Walks by self
- Walks upstairs with one hand held
- Throws a ball
- Sits self on chair
- Tantrums are frequent
- Upsets easily
- Prefers to play alone or next to another child
- May show more jealousy
- Very imitative
- Marks with crayon
- Builds a tower of 3-4 blocks
- Turns 2-3 pages of book at once
- Nests 3 containers/cups in order by size
- Points to 3 body parts when named
- Enjoys nursery rhymes and fingerplays
- Understands personal pronouns, some action words and adjectives
- Imitates sounds (e.g., cars, animals, phone and words)
- Uses 2-3 word combination
- Imitates many words



## 24 to 30 Months

- Moves Big Wheel/Kiddie Car 10 feet
- Walks up/down stairs without help
- Jumps in place
- Picks up objects from floor without falling
- May hit, push, bite, show more aggression
- May become whiny and clingy
- Very imaginative
- Behaves selfishly
- Enjoys pretend play
- Strings large bead
- Turns pages singly
- Puts cubes in a row to form train
- Copies lines and circles
- Identifies self in pictures
- Enjoys playdo/crayons
- Understands several action words
- Listens to simple stories
- Identifies object by use
- Names familiar objects
- Asks simple question
- Expanding Vocabulary



## 30 to 36 Months



- Hops on one foot 5 times
- Stands on one foot for 3 seconds
- Kicks a large ball
- Jumps up and down
- Avoids hazards
- May say, “I can’t” – “You do it”
- Likes a schedule
- Copies a circle
- Stacks 5 rings in order by size
- Can give you “one” out of many
- Enjoys make-believe activities
- Puts objects “in” or “under” on request

- Identifies 7 body parts
- Carries out simple 2-step commands
- Imitates 2-word combinations
- Uses short simple sentences a(2-3 words)
- Several hundreds words in vocabulary
- Sounds mastered – i.e. p, b, m
- 60-90% of speech readily understood

