

Three, Four, and Five-Year-Old Developmental Milestones

DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONES



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Social Development

- Copy adults and friends
- Show a wide range of emotions
- Take turns in games
- Shows affection to friends without prompting
- Separate easily from mom and dad
- Play 'Mom' and 'Dad'
- Enjoy doing new things
- Cooperate with other children
- Would rather play with other children than by himself or herself
- Talk about interests and likes
- Wants to please friends
- Is aware of gender
- Can tell what is real and what is make-believe
- Sometimes demanding and sometimes very cooperative
- Shows more independence



Cognitive Development

- Can work toys with buttons, levers, and moving parts
- Screw and unscrew lids on jars
- Build towers
- Copy circles with pencil or crayon
- Understand what "two" means
- Do puzzles with 4 or more pieces
- Count 10 or more things
- Can draw a person with at least 6 body parts
- Can print letters and numbers
- Copy triangle and other geometric shapes
- Know about things used everyday, like money and food
- Play board or card games
- Use scissors
- Understand idea of counting
- Remember parts of story
- Starts to understand time

Physical Development

- Climb well
- Run easily
- Pedal a tricycle
- Walk up and down stairs, one foot on each step
- Swing and climb
- Can use the toilet on own
- Can do a somersault
- Stand on one foot for 10 seconds
- Hop; may be able to skip
- Use a fork and spoon
- Catch a bounced ball
- Pour, cut with supervision, and mash own food

Personal Development

- Follow three-step directions without distraction
- Assign roles and takes assigned roles during play
- Take on characteristics and actions during role play
- Use language to create and sustain plots during play
- Tell stories
- Can say first and last name
- Carry on a conversation using two to three sentences
- Know address
- Can name familiar things
- Can dress and undress
- Understand the concept of bathing

Some handy resources that can help as well:

- www.cdc.gov/ActEarly
- www.healthychildren.org
- www.webmd.com

