

Developmental Milestones

CDC

http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/interactive/milestones/social_3months.html

Social Emotional

By the end of 3 months

- Begins to develop a social smile
- Enjoys playing with other people and may cry when playing stops
- Becomes more expressive and communicates more with face and body
- Imitates some movements and facial expressions

By the end of 7 months

- Enjoys social play
- Interested in mirror images
- Responds to other people's expressions of emotion and appears joyful often

By the end of 1 year (12 months)

- Shy or anxious with strangers
- Cries when mother or father leaves
- Enjoys imitating people in his play
- Shows specific preferences for certain people and toys
- Tests parental responses to his actions during feedings
- Tests parental responses to his behavior
- May be fearful in some situations
- Prefers mother and/or regular caregiver over all others
- Repeats sounds or gestures for attention
- Finger-feeds himself
- Extends arm or leg to help when being dressed

By the end of 2 years (24 months)

SOCIAL

- Imitates behavior of others, especially adults and older children
- More aware of herself as separate from others
- More excited about company of other children

EMOTIONAL

- Demonstrates increasing independence
- Begins to show defiant behavior
- Separation anxiety increases toward midyear then fades

By the end of 3 years (36 months)

SOCIAL

- Imitates adults and playmates
- Spontaneously shows affection for familiar playmates
- Can take turns in games
- Understands concept of "mine" and "his/hers"

EMOTIONAL

- Expresses affection openly
- Expresses a wide range of emotions
- By 3, separates easily from parents
- Objects to major changes in routine

By the end of 4 years (48 months)

SOCIAL

- Interested in new experiences
- Cooperates with other children
- Plays "Mom" or "Dad"
- Increasingly inventive in fantasy play
- Dresses and undresses
- Negotiates solutions to conflicts
- More independent

EMOTIONAL

- Imagines that many unfamiliar images may be "monsters"
- Views self as a whole person involving body, mind, and feelings
- Often cannot tell the difference between fantasy and reality

By the end of 5 years (60 months)

SOCIAL

- Wants to please friends
- Wants to be like her friends
- More likely to agree to rules
- Likes to sing, dance, and act
- Shows more independence and may even visit a next-door neighbor by herself

EMOTIONAL

- Aware of gender
- Able to distinguish fantasy from reality
- Sometimes demanding, sometimes eagerly cooperative

Cognitive

By the end of 7 months

- Finds partially hidden object
- Explores with hands and mouth
- Struggles to get objects that are out of reach

By the end of 1 year (12 months)

- Explores objects in many different ways (shaking, banging, throwing, dropping)
- Finds hidden objects easily
- Looks at correct picture when the image is named
- Imitates gestures
- Begins to use objects correctly (drinking from cup, brushing hair, dialing phone, listening to receiver)

By the end of 2 years (24 months)

- Finds objects even when hidden under two or three covers
- Begins to sort by shapes and colors
- Begins make-believe play

By the end of 3 years (36 months)

- Makes mechanical toys work
- Matches an object in her hand or room to a picture in a book
- Plays make-believe with dolls, animals, and people
- Sorts objects by shape and color
- Completes puzzles with three or four pieces
- Understands concept of "two"

By the end of 4 years (48 months)

- Correctly names some colors
- Understands the concept of counting and may know a few numbers
- Tries to solve problems from a single point of view
- Begins to have a clearer sense of time
- Follows three-part commands
- Recalls parts of a story
- Understands the concepts of "same" and "different"
- Engages in fantasy play

By the end of 5 years (60 months)

- Can count 10 or more objects
- Correctly names at least four colors
- Better understands the concept of time
- Knows about things used every day in the home (money, food, appliances)

Language

By the end of 7 months

- Responds to own name
- Begins to respond to "no"
- Can tell emotions by tone of voice
- Responds to sound by making sounds

Uses voice to express joy and displeasure
Babbles chains of sounds

By the end of 1 year (12 months)

Pays increasing attention to speech
Responds to simple verbal requests
Responds to "no"
Uses simple gestures, such as shaking head for "no"
Babbles with inflection (changes in tone)
Says "dada" and "mama"
Uses exclamations, such as "Oh-oh!"
Tries to imitate words

By the end of 2 years (24 months)

Points to object or picture when it's named for him
Recognizes names of familiar people, objects, and body parts
Says several single words (by 15 to 18 months)
Uses simple phrases (by 18 to 24 months)
Uses 2- to 4-word sentences
Follows simple instructions
Repeats words overheard in conversation
Does not imitate actions or words by the end of this period

By the end of 3 years (36 months)

Follows a two- or three-part command
Recognizes and identifies almost all common objects and pictures
Understands most sentences
Understands placement in space ("on," "in," "under")
Uses 4- to 5-word sentences
Can say name, age, and sex
Uses pronouns (I, you, me, we, they) and some plurals (cars, dogs, cats)
Strangers can understand most of her words

By the end of 4 years (48 months)

Has mastered some basic rules of grammar
Speaks in sentences of five to six words
Speaks clearly enough for strangers to understand
Tells stories

By the end of 5 years (60 months)

Recalls part of a story
Speaks sentences of more than five words
Uses future tense
Tells longer stories
Says name and address