

Child Development Chart – First Five Years

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	SOCIAL	SELF-HELP	GROSS MOTOR	FINE MOTOR	LANGUAGE
Birth to 6 Months	Distinguishes mother from others. Social smile.	Comforts self with thumb or pacifier. Reacts to sigh of bottle or breast.	Turns around when lying on stomach. Lifts head and chest when lying on stomach.	Picks up toy with one hand. Looks and reaches for faces and toys.	Vocalizes spontaneously, social. Reacts to voices. Vocalizes, coos, chuckles.
6 Months to 9 Months	Pushes things away he/she does not want. Reaches for familiar persons.	Feeds cracker to self.	Sits alone... steady, without support. Rolls over from back to stomach.	Picks up objects with thumb and finger grasp. Transfers toy from one hand to other.	Wide range of vocalizations (vowel, consonant-vowel sound combinations). Responds to name – turns and looks.
9 Months to 12 Months	Plays patty-cake. Plays social games: peek-a-boo, bye-bye.	Picks up spoon by handle.	Walks around furniture or crib while holding on. Crawls around on hands and knees.	Picks up small object – precise thumb and finger grasp.	Understands words like “No,” “Stop,” or “All gone.” Word sounds: says “Ma-ma” or “Da-da.”
12 Months to 18 Months	Greets people with “Hi” or similar. Gives hugs or kisses. Wants stuffed animal, doll or blanket in bed.	Insists on doing things by self such as feeding. Feeds self with spoon. Lifts cup to mouth and drinks.	Runs. Walks without help. Stand without support.	Scribbles with crayon. Picks up two small toys in one hand. Stacks two or more blocks.	Asks for food or drink with words. Talks in single words. Follows simple instructions.
18 Months to 2 Years	Usually responds to correction-stops. Shows sympathy to other children, tries to comfort them. Sometimes says “No” when interfered with.	Takes off open coat or shirt without help. Eats with spoon, spilling little. Eats with fork.	Walks up and down stairs alone. Runs well, seldom falls. Kicks a ball forward.	Turns pages of picture books, one at a time. Builds tower of four or more blocks.	Follows two-part instructions. Uses at least ten words. Follows simple instructions.
2 Years to 3 Years	Plays a role in “pretend” games. Plays with other children – cars, dolls, building. “Helps” with simple household tasks.	Dresses self with help. Washes and dries hands. Opens door by turning knob.	Walks up and down stairs – one foot per step. Stands on one foot without support. Climbs on play equipment-ladders, slides.	Cuts with small scissors. Draws or copies vertical lines. Scribbles with circular motion.	Understands four prepositions – in, on, under, beside. Talks clearly – is understandable most of the time. Talks in two-three word phrases or sentences.
3 Years to 4 Years	Protective towards younger children. Plays cooperatively, with minimum conflict and supervision. Gives direction to other children.	Dresses and undresses without help, except for tying shoelaces. Washes face without help. Toilet trained.	Hops on one foot, without support. Rides around on a tricycle, using pedals.	Cuts across paper with small scissors. Draws or copies a complete circle.	Understands concepts – size, number, shape. Counts five or more objects when asked “how many?” Identifies four colors correctly. Combines sentences with the words “and,” “or,” or “but.”
4 Years to 5 Years	Shows leadership among children. Follows simple game rules in board games or card games.	Goes to the toilet without help. Usually looks both ways before crossing street. Buttons one or more buttons.	Swings on swing, pumping by self. Skips or makes running “broad jumps.” Hops around on one foot without support.	Prints first name. Draws a person that has at least three parts: head, eyes, nose, mouth, etc. Draws recognizable pictures.	Tells meaning of familiar words. Reads a few letters (five +) Follows a series of three simple instructions.

Remember that children develop at different rates and this is only a general guide. If you have concerns about your child’s development contact a professional.