

CHART OF NORMAL DEVELOPMENT
2-3 YEARS

MOTOR SKILLS

Gross Motor Skills

- Runs forward well.
- Jumps in place, two feet together.
- Stands on one foot, with aid.
- Walks on tiptoe.
- Kicks ball forward.

Fine Motor Skills

- Strings 4 large beads.
- Turns single pages.
- Snips with scissors.
- Holds crayon with thumb and fingers, not fist.
- Uses one hand consistently in most activities.
- Imitates circular, vertical, horizontal strokes.
- Paints with some wrist actions. Makes dots, lines, circular strokes.
- Rolls, pounds, squeezes, and pulls clay.

COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Understanding of Language

- Points to pictures of common objects when they are named.
- Can identify objects when told their use.
- Understands question forms **what** and **where**.
- Understands negatives **no**, **not**, **can't**, and **don't**.
- Enjoys listening to simply storybooks and requests them again.

Simple Language

- Joins vocabulary words together in two-word phrases.
- Gives first and last name.
- Asks **what** and **where** questions.
- Makes negative statements (for example, **Can't open it**).
- Shows frustration at not being understood.

CHART OF NORMAL DEVELOPMENT
2-3 YEARS (Continued)

COGNITIVE SKILLS

- Responds to simple directions (for example: **Give me the ball and the block. Get your shoes and socks.**)
- Selects and looks at picture books, names pictured objects, and identifies several objects within one picture.
- Matches and uses associated objects meaningfully (for example, given cup, saucer, and bead, puts cup and saucer together).
- Stacks rings on peg in order of size.
- Recognizes self in mirror, saying, **baby**, or own name.
- Can talk briefly about what he/she is doing.
- Imitates adult actions (for example, housekeeping play).
- Has limited attention span. Learning is through exploration and adult direction (as in reading of picture stories).
- Is beginning to understand functional concepts of familiar objects (for example, that is a spoon used for eating) and part/whole concepts (for example, parts of the body).

SELF-HELP SKILLS

- Uses spoon, spilling little.
- Gets drink from fountain or faucet unassisted.
- Opens door by turning handle.
- Takes off coat.
- Puts on coat with assistance.
- Washes and dries hands with assistance.

SOCIAL SKILLS

- Plays near other children.
- Watches other children, joins briefly in their play.
- Defends own possessions.
- Begins to play house.
- Symbolically uses objects, self in play.
- Participates in simple group activity (for example, sings, claps, dances).
- Knows gender identity.