

CHART OF NORMAL DEVELOPMENT
3-4 YEARS

MOTOR SKILLS

Gross Motor Skills

- Runs around obstacles.
- Walks on a line.
- Balances on one foot for 5 to 10 seconds.
- Hops on one foot.
- Rides (that is, steers and pedals) tricycle.
- Pushes, pulls, steers wheeled toys.
- Uses slide without assistance.
- Jumps over 15 cm. (6") high object, landing on both feet together.
- Throws ball overhead.
- Catches ball bounced to him/her.

Fine Motor Skills

- Builds tower of 9 small blocks.
- Drives nails and pegs.
- Copies circle.
- Imitates cross.
- Manipulates clay materials (for example, pie, rolls balls, snakes, cookies).

COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Understanding of Language

- Begins to understand sentences involving time concepts (for example, **We are going to the zoo tomorrow**).
- Understands size comparatives such as **big** and **bigger**.
- Understands relationships expressed by **if. . .then** or **because** sentences.
- Carries out a series of 2 to 4 related directions.
- Understands when told, **Let's pretend**.

Spoken Language

- Talks in sentences of three or more words, which take the form agent-action-object (**I see the ball**) or agent-action-location (**Daddy sit on chair**).
- Tells about past experiences.
- Uses "s" on nouns to indicate plurals.

CHART OF NORMAL DEVELOPMENT
3-4 YEARS (Continued)

- Uses "ed" on verbs to indicate past tense.
- Refers to self using pronouns **I** or **me**.
- Repeats at least one nursery rhyme and can sing a song.
- Speech is understandable to strangers, but there are still some sound errors.

COGNITIVE SKILLS

- Recognizes and matches six colors.
- Intentionally stacks blocks or rings in order of size.
- Draws somewhat recognizable picture that is meaningful to child, if not to adult. Names and briefly explains picture.
- Asks questions for information (**why** and **how** questions requiring simple answers).
- Knows own age.
- Knows own last name.
- Has short attention span.
- Learns through observing and imitating adults, and by adult instruction and explanation. Is very easily distracted.
- Has increased understanding of concepts of the functions and groupings of objects (for example, can put doll house furniture in correct rooms) and part/whole (for example, can identify pictures of hand and foot as parts of body).
- Begins to be aware of past and present (for example: **Yesterday we went to the park. Today we go to the library**).

SELF HELP SKILLS

- Pours well from small pitcher.
- Spreads soft butter with knife.
- Buttons and unbuttons large buttons.
- Washes hands unassisted.
- Blows nose when reminded.
- Uses toilet independently.

SOCIAL SKILLS

- Joins in play with other children. Begins to interact.
- Shares toys. Takes turns with assistance.
- Begins dramatic play, acting out whole scenes (for example, traveling, playing house, pretending to be animals).