

CHART OF NORMAL DEVELOPMENT
4-5 YEARS

MOTOR SKILLS

Gross Motor Skills

- Walks backward toe-heel.
- Jumps forward 10 times, without falling.
- Walks up and down stairs alone, alternating feet.
- Turns somersault.

Fine Motor Skills

- Cuts on line continuously.
- Copies cross.
- Copies square.
- Prints a few capital letters.

COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Understanding of Language

- Follows three unrelated commands in proper order.
- Understands comparatives like **pretty**, **prettier**, and **prettiest**.
- Listens to long stories but often misinterprets the facts.
- Incorporates verbal directions into play activities.
- Understands sequencing of events when told them (for example, **First we have to go to the store, then we can make the cake, and tomorrow we will eat it**).

Spoken Language

- Asks **when**, **how**, and **why** questions.
- Uses models like **can**, **will**, **shall**, **should**, and **might**.
- Joins sentences together (for example, **I like chocolate chip cookies and milk**).
- Talks about causality and using **because** and **so**.
- Tells the content of story but may confuse the facts.

CHART OF NORMAL DEVELOPMENT
4-5 YEARS (Continued)

COGNITIVE SKILLS

- Plays with words (creates own rhyming words; says or makes up words having similar sounds).
- Points to and names 4 to 6 colors.
- Matches pictures of familiar objects (for example, shoe, sock, foot, apple, orange, banana).
- Draws a person with 2 to 6 recognizable parts, such as head, arms, legs. Can name and match drawn parts to own body.
- Draws, names, and describes recognizable picture.
- Rote counts to 5, imitating adults.
- Knows own street and town.
- Has more extended attention span. Learns through observing and listening to adults as well as through exploration. Is easily distracted.
- Has increased understanding of concepts of function, time, part/whole relationships. Function or use of objects may be stated in addition to names of objects.
- Time concepts are expanding. The child can talk about yesterday or last week (a long time ago), about today, and about what will happen tomorrow.

SELF-HELP SKILLS

- Cuts easy food with a knife (for example, hamburger patty, tomato slice).
- Laces shoes.

SOCIAL SKILLS

- Plays and interacts with other children.
- Dramatic play is closer to reality, with attention paid to detail, time, and space.
- Plays dress-up.
- Shows interest in exploring sex differences.