Most toddlers 12–15 months old...
- Combine two words together: “more milk” “daddy
- Show concern and sympathy.
- Begin walking with help.
- Know the difference between ‘boy’ and ‘girl’.
- Greet peers and familiar adults when reminded.
- Like doing things their own way and say “no” often.
- Climb stairs, but may hold onto the railing.
- Enjoy singing simple songs and saying nursery rhymes.
- Ask for simple things like “cookie” and “milk”.
- Use crayons to draw on paper.
- Use the bathroom during the day.
- Listen to simple short stories, songs and rhymes.
- Show affection for younger children.
- Go to a familiar adult for affection, help, or comfort.
- Use objects symbolically (using a banana for a
- Show their feelings through actions and vocaliza-
- Point to things when named.
- Use their own names to talk about themselves.
- Enjoy playing alongside other children but may not
- Repeat actions that produce laughter and attention.
- Follow two simple requests (get the book and put it on the table).
- Listen carefully by family members and caregivers.
- One objects symbolically using a banana for a phone, or a block for a car.
- Count stairs, but you hold onto the railing.
- Talk about feelings and tell pretend noises.
- Make the bathroom during the day.
- Have a difference between ‘boy’ and ‘girl’.
- Begin to draw toys and play with the children
- Great fun, but adults watch carefully.
- Want to please others.
- Show their feelings through actions and vocaliza-
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Babies are born learning

This brochure provides parents and caregivers with information about young children’s learning and development from birth through 4 years old. It also suggests simple activities parents and children can do to encourage meaningful learning at different ages. Each child develops at his or her own pace, and there is a broad range of what is considered typical development among young children. However, development generally occurs in predictable sequences and children about the same age will acquire the same skills.

If you have concerns

You know your child best, so you’re likely to make the most accurate observations about your child’s development. Follow your instincts. If you are worried about how your child is developing, talk with a professional. A more complete check of your infant or toddler’s development (including vision and hearing) should be arranged for free by contacting the Community Centered Board that serves your community. You can request a free evaluation at any time to answer questions about your infant or toddler’s development, and determine whether your child may benefit from early intervention supports and services. To begin that process, call (toll-free) 1-888-777-4041. If your child is a 3 to 6 year old, contact your local school district.

Birth to 3 months old

3 months to 6 months old

6 months to 9 months old

9 to 12 months old

Most Babies 3-6 months old …

Most Babies 6-9 months old …

Most Babies 9-12 months old …