DEVELOPMENTAL BENCHMARKS OF TWO TO SIX YEAR OLD CHILDREN

Ages	Emotional and Social Skills	Intellectual Skills	Fine Motor Skills	Gross Motor Skills
Two- Year- Olds	□ Plays near but not with other children □ Seeks teacher's attention □ Observes others to see how they do things □ Asserts independence □ Exhibits high degree of self-interest Comparing the comp	□ Talks mostly to self □ Uses "me" instead of name □ Enjoys showing and naming objects □ Uses a 200 to 300 word vocabulary □ Speaks in phrases or three-word sentences □ Answers yes/no questions □ Follows two-step commands □ Constructs negative sentences (no truck) □ Uses modifiers such as "some", "all", "one" □ Understands big and little □ Uses adjectives like "red", "old", "pretty"	□ Turns pages of a book □ Imitates drawing a circle or line □ Can work fingers to scoop up small objects □ Constructs simple two and three-piece puzzles □ Enjoys short, simple finger play games □ Strings large beads on shoelace □ Builds tower of up to eight blocks Fine Motor Fun for Babies and Toddlers	 □ Kicks large ball □ Jumps in place □ Runs without falling □ Walks up and down stairs alone □ Marches to music □ Tends to use legs and arms as pairs □ Uses whole arm usually to paint or colour
Three Year- Olds	 □ Plays in groups of two or three children □ Begins to take turns □ Shares with friends □ Enjoys independence by doing things for self □ Yells "stop it" at times instead of striking another child 	 □ Asks "how", "what", "when" and "why" questions □ Uses verbs such as "could", "need", "might" and "help" □ Understands pronouns "you" and "they" □ Understands smaller and larger □ Answers "how" questions appropriately □ Loves words such as "secret", "surprise" and "different" □ Uses words to define space such as "back, up, outside, in front of, behind, over, next to" 	 □ Cuts paper □ Builds tower of nine small blocks □ Pastes using a finger □ Pours from a pitcher □ Copies a circle from a drawing □ Draws a person with three parts □ Strings beads and can arrange by colour and shape □ Uses a knife to spread food 	 □ Catches ball with arms extended forward □ Throws ball underhand □ Completes forward somersault □ Walks up stairs with alternating feet □ Rides a tricycle skillfully □ Runs, walks, jumps and gallops to music □ Throws ball without losing balance □ Hops on one foot

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Four- Year- Olds	 □ Loves other children and having a "friend" □ Bases friendships on shared activities □ Seeks approval of friends □ Plays in small groups □ Delights in humorous stories □ Shows more interest in other children than in adults □ Excludes children they do not like □ Loves to whisper and tell secrets 	 ☐ Has trouble telling difference between reality and fantasy ☐ Exaggerates in practicing new words ☐ Loves silly words and repeating them ☐ Vocabulary of 1200 to 1500 words ☐ Begins to identify letters in own name ☐ Begins to appreciate bugs, flowers, birds ☐ Learns simple card games and dominoes ☐ Develops awareness of "bad" and "good" 	□ Buttons and unbuttons □ Cuts on a line with scissors □ Completes six to eight- piece puzzle □ Copies some letters and numbers □ Buckles a belt □ Zips separated fasteners □ Adds five parts to an incomplete drawing of a person	□ Walks up and down stairs one foot per step □ Skips on one foot □ Rides a bicycle with training wheels
Five- Year- Olds	 □ Prefers playing in small groups □ Prefers friends of same sex and age □ Protects younger children □ Plays well with older siblings □ Washes hands before meals □ Respects property of others □ Becomes competitive □ Develops sense of fairness 	 □ Retells main details of stories □ Recognizes the cause and effect of actions □ Tells original stories □ Follows three-step commands. 	 □ Uses a knife □ Copies many letters and numbers □ Traces objects □ Draws crude objects □ Colours within lines □ Copies square, triangle and diamond shape □ Models objects from clay □ Laces shoes 	☐ Tries roller and ice skating ☐ Catches ball with hands ☐ Jumps from heights ☐ Jumps rope ☐ Walks on stilts ☐ Skips ☐ Climbs fences
Six- Year- Olds	 □ Prefers friends of the same sex □ Engages in cooperative play involving role assignments □ Enjoys being praised and complimented □ Enjoys "show and tell" □ May be argumentative □ Competitive and wants to win 	 □ Identifies penny, nickel and dime □ Counts ten objects □ Completes a 15-piece puzzle □ Acts out stories □ Plays Chinese checkers and dominoes □ Recognizes letters and words □ Identifies right from left hand □ Repeats an 8-10 word sentence 	 □ Ties bows □ Establishes hand preference □ Reverses letters while printing □ Paints houses, trees, flowers and clouds 	 □ Plays hopscotch □ Enjoys ball play □ Plays simple, organized games such as hide-and- seek