

KEY POINTS OF DEVELOPMENT For Toddlers Advancing to Preschool

Language Arts

- Listening and responding
- Communicating nonverbally and verbally
- Participating in communication give-and-take
- Exploring picture books and magazines
- Enjoying stories, rhymes, and songs

Math

- Experiencing “more”
- Experiencing one-to-one correspondence
- Exploring the number of things
- Filling and emptying, putting in and taking out

Science

- Exploring and noting how things are the same or different
- Exploring objects with the hands, feet, mouth, eyes, ears, and nose
- Showing interest in various objects in the natural environment, such as the fish tank, plants, insects, etc.
- Taking things apart and fitting them together

History/Geography

- Anticipating familiar events
- Noticing the beginning and ending of a time interval
- Repeating an action to make something happen again; experiencing cause and effect
- Observing people and things from various perspectives

Practical Life

Social

- Forming attachment to a primary caregiver
- Building relationships with other adults
- Building relationships with peers
- Developing social play

Behaviors

- Showing empathy toward the feelings and needs of others
- Solving problems encountered in exploration and play
- Imitating and pretending
- Moving parts of the body (head-turning, grasping, kicking) and moving the whole body (rolling, crawling, cruising, walking, running, balancing)
- Moving with objects

Concentration/Focus

- Spending greater amounts of time attending to an activity
- Being able to continue focusing on an object or activity despite sounds or movements from others nearby
- Showing greater interest in objects or activities

Self-Care

- Being able to drink from a cup and use utensils while eating
- Showing increased interest and ability in pouring from a pitcher, serving food, and cleaning up after eating.
- Being able to wash hands at a sink

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- Being able to select activities and objects from a shelf and put them away when finished using them
- Being able to use the toilet with little assistance from a teacher or other caregiver

Health and Nutrition

- Understand the difference between healthy and unhealthy foods
- Identify differences between breakfast, lunch, snacks, and dinner
- Understand the importance of sleep in health

Arts

- Listening and responding to music
- Exploring and imitating sounds
- Exploring vocal pitch sounds
- Feeling and expressing steady beat
- Exploring building and art materials