



24 to 36
months

MOVEMENT

- Climbs well (24-30 mos)
- Walks down stairs alone, placing both feet on each step (26-28 mos)
- Walks up stairs alternating feet with support (24-30 mos)
- Swings leg to kick ball (24-30 mos)
- Runs easily (24-26 mos)
- Pedals tricycle (30-36 mos)
- Bends over easily without falling (24-30 mos)

FINE MOTOR SKILLS

- Turns book pages one at a time (24-30 mos)
- Builds a tower of more than 6 blocks (24-30 mos)
- Screws and unscrews jar lids, nuts, and bolts (24-30 mos)
- Turns rotating handles (24-30 mos)
- Makes vertical and horizontal circular strokes with pencil or crayon (30-36 mos)
- Holds a pencil in writing position (30-36 mos)

COGNITIVE

- Matches an object in hand or room to a picture in a book (24-30 mos)
- Plays make-believe with dolls, animals, and people (24-36 mos)
- Understands concept of "two" (26-32 mos)
- Makes mechanical toys work (30-36 mos)
- Sorts objects by color (30-36 mos)

SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL

- Separates easily from parents (by 36 mos)
- Expresses a wide range of emotions (24-36 mos)
- Objects to major changes in routine (25-36 mos)

THINGS TO WATCH FOR

- Frequent falling and difficulty with stairs
- Persistent drooling or very unclear speech
- Inability to build a tower of more than 4 blocks
- Difficulty manipulating small objects
- Inability to copy a circle by 3 years old
- Inability to communicate in short phrases
- No involvement in pretend play
- Failure to understand simple instructions
- Little interest in other children
- Extreme difficulty separating from primary caregiver