

# Child Developmental Chart *The First Five Years*

## 1-2 months

### ACTIVITIES TO BE OBSERVED:

- Holds head erect and lifts head.
- Turns from side to back.
- Regards faces and follows objects through visual field.
- Drops toys.
- Becomes alert in response to voice.

### ACTIVITIES RELATED BY PARENT:

- Recognizes parents.
- Engages in vocalizations.
- Smiles spontaneously.

## 3-5 months

### ACTIVITIES TO BE OBSERVED:

- Grasps cube—first ulnar then later thumb opposition.
- Reaches for and brings objects to mouth.
- Makes “raspberry” sound.
- Sits with support.

### ACTIVITIES RELATED BY PARENT:

- Laughs.
- Anticipates food on sight.
- Turns from back to side.

## 6-8 months

### ACTIVITIES TO BE OBSERVED:

- Sits alone for a short period.
- Reaches with 1 hand.
- First scoops up a pellet, then grasps it using thumb opposition.
- Imitates “bye-bye.”
- Passes object from hand to hand in midline.
- Babbles.

### ACTIVITIES RELATED BY PARENT:

- Rolls from back to stomach.
- Is inhibited by the word “No.”

## 9-11 months

### ACTIVITIES TO BE OBSERVED:

- Stands alone.
- Imitates pat-a-cake and peek-a-boo.
- Uses thumb and index finger to pick up pellet.

### ACTIVITIES RELATED BY PARENT:

- Walks by supporting self on furniture.
- Follows 1-step verbal commands, e.g., “Come here,” “Give it to me.”

## 1 year

### ACTIVITIES TO BE OBSERVED:

- Walks independently.
- Says “mama” and “dada” with meaning.
- Can use a neat pincer grasp to pick up a pellet.
- Releases cube into cup after demonstration.
- Gives toys on request.
- Tries to build a tower of 2 cubes.

### ACTIVITIES RELATED BY PARENT:

- Points to desired objects.
- Says 1 or 2 other words.

## 18 months

### ACTIVITIES TO BE OBSERVED:

- Builds tower of 3–4 cubes.
- Throws ball.
- Seats self in chair.
- Dumps pellet from bottle.

### ACTIVITIES RELATED BY PARENT:

- Walks up and down stairs with help.
- Says 4–20 words.
- Understands a 2-step command.
- Carries and hugs doll.
- Feeds self.

## 24 months

### ACTIVITIES TO BE OBSERVED:

- Speaks short phrases, 2 words or more.
- Kicks ball on request.
- Builds tower of 6–7 cubes.
- Points to named objects or pictures.
- Jumps off floor with both feet.
- Stands on either foot alone.
- Uses pronouns.

### ACTIVITIES RELATED BY PARENT:

- Verbalizes toilet needs.
- Pulls on simple garment.
- Turns pages of book singly.
- Plays with domestic mimicry.

## 30 months

### ACTIVITIES TO BE OBSERVED:

- Walks backward.
- Begins to hop on 1 foot.
- Uses prepositions.
- Copies a crude circle.
- Points to objects described by use.
- Refers to self as I.
- Holds crayon in fist.

### ACTIVITIES RELATED BY PARENT:

- Helps put things away.
- Carries on a conversation.

## 3 years

### ACTIVITIES TO BE OBSERVED:

- Holds crayon with fingers.
- Builds tower of 9–10 cubes.
- Imitates 3-cube bridge.
- Copies circle.
- Gives first and last name.

### ACTIVITIES RELATED BY PARENT:

- Rides tricycle using pedals.
- Dresses with supervision.

## 3-4 years

### ACTIVITIES TO BE OBSERVED:

- Climbs stairs with alternating feet.
- Begins to button and unbutton.
- “What do you like to do that’s fun?” (Answers using plurals, personal pronouns, and verbs.)
- Responds to command to place toy in, on, or under table.
- Draws a circle when asked to draw a person.
- Knows own sex. (“Are you a boy or a girl?”)
- Gives full name.
- Copies a circle already drawn. (“Can you make one like this?”)

### ACTIVITIES RELATED BY PARENT:

- Feeds self at mealtime.
- Takes off shoes and jacket.

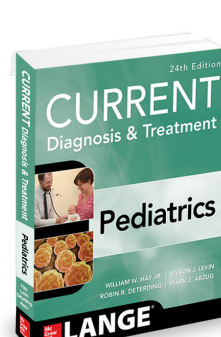
## 4-5 years

### ACTIVITIES TO BE OBSERVED:

- Runs and turns without losing balance.
- May stand on 1 leg for at least 10 seconds.
- Buttons clothes and laces shoes. (Does not tie.)
- Counts to 4 by rote. “Give me 2 sticks.” (Able to do so from pile of 4 tongue depressors.)
- Draws a person. (Head, 2 appendages, and possibly 2 eyes. No torso yet.)
- Knows the days of the week. (“What day comes after Tuesday?”)
- Gives appropriate answers to: “What must you do if you are sleepy? Hungry? Cold?”
- Copies + in imitation

### ACTIVITIES RELATED BY PARENT:

- Self-care at toilet. (May need help with wiping.)
- Plays outside for at least 30 minutes.



Source: CURRENT Diagnosis and Treatment Pediatrics, Twenty-Fourth Edition  
Authors: William W. Hay, Jr., Myron J. Levin, Robin R. Deterding, and Mark J. Abzug  
This and many other leading pediatric texts can be found on [AccessPediatrics.com](http://AccessPediatrics.com).

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