



Years 2-3 Developmental Guide

Physical

- **Gross Motor: Movement and Coordination:** Show coordination skills while moving around and engaging in play activities. Fling a ball in an attempt to throw it towards target; pushes friend on riding toy; climb steps of slide; walk on broad balance beam or edge of walkway; imitate a variety of movements (runs, walks, gallops, jumps); jump with both feet.
- **Fine Motor:** Demonstrate eye-hand coordination while manipulating and exploring objects. Poke, pound and build with play dough and other sculpting materials; scribble with a variety of instruments beginning to use thumb and fingertips grasp; use wrist rotation to fit puzzle piece into puzzle; unscrew lids to pour from one container to another; pull apart pop beads or connecting blocks with ease; use thumb and forefinger to pick up and hold small objects.

Social and Emotional

- **Self Concept:** Shows an emerging sense of self. Has growing sense of separateness; seek and find pride in developing skills that encourage independence (washing own hands, putting on own coat); realize reflection in the mirror is his.
- **Self Control:** Demonstrate increased skill in identifying and expressing feelings. Verbally state wants and needs ("I want that", "mine", "I'm thirsty"); begin to

understand behaviors that hurt self or others (exclaims "no" when another child attempts to hit or bite).

- **Cooperation:** Begin to gain a sense of mastery and achievement. Try new experiences; repeat a newly gained skill and seek positive response for achievements from adult (looks at caregiver after completion of task to see response).

Relational Spiritual

Around this age, children are old enough to understand simple things in the bible such as the theme God's Creation. Take your children for walks and look at different things in nature and talk about them.

Start out with **Genesis 1:1** and while walking look at all the things in nature. Then ask your child questions like; *Who made that tree? Did daddy make the tree? No. Did mommy make the tree? No. God made the tree. He is the creator. He is the only one who has power to make things live and who can make the world.*

Then sing songs relating to what you are talking about such as, In the Beginning God Made The Earth.