

3 YEARS TO 4 YEARS

EMERGING SKILLS DURING AGE RANGE

- On average, uses 250-1000 words
- Able to say first name, age, and gender
- Starts to understand or recognize colors, shapes, and family members
- Labels pictures
- Understands spatial concepts, for example in, on, off
- Answers simple who, what, when, where questions
- Uses pronouns, for example me, we, you
- Unfamiliar listeners understand them most of the time
- Puts 4+ words together
- Begins to jump with two feet
- Talks about their day
- Copies a picture of a circle and a cross
- Strings beads together
- Removes screw-on lid from a bottle or container
- Rides a trike
- Visually tracks to catch and throw a ball
- Unbuttons and buttons items
- Throwing begins at the shoulder
- Catches a large ball with their arms/chest
- Walks up the stairs with alternating feet
- Able to stand on one foot for 5 seconds

Developmental Toys & Activities

- Play outside: Run, jump, swing, crawl
- Go to play groups and/or activities
- Play counting games, for example count the stair or number of forks, etc.
- To practice standing on one leg, start with one foot propped on a step then transition to no step
- More complex puzzles of 4-9 pieces
- Coloring or craft activities
- Lego projects
- Beading projects
- Play and pretend: kitchen and food, babies, doctor kit
- Sing songs like “Wheels on the Bus” and encourage imitation of the actions
- Letter and number tracing activities or tracing letters of name
- Simple board games for turn taking and learning rules