

Prepare for Kindergarten

Ready in Stages

12 - 24 months

Toddlers learn skills at their own pace. Avoid comparing your toddler with another child. Children need specific skills to be ready to start school. Parents teach those skills.

By the end of 24 months, your toddler should be able to:

- Pull off her hat, socks and mittens. Help with dressing.
- Put blocks into a box. Take blocks out of a box. Stack 2-6 blocks.
- Hold and drink from a cup.
- Feed himself with his fingers and a small spoon.
- Play pat-a-cake. Wave bye bye.
- Name items like a **cup**, **light**, **spoon**, **block**.
- Respond to the word “no”. Respond to commands.
- Point to her **eyes**, **nose**, **feet**, **hair**, **mouth** and ears.
- Say 3 to 8 words, regularly. Use 2 – 3 word sentences.
- Know 50 to 70 words.
- Give affection. Show an interest in others. Show pride and pleasures.
- Shake his head “no”. Imitate sounds or words.
- Walk up steps with help.
- Like to imitate you and pretend play.
- Play alone, on the floor, with toys.
- Know the sounds of a **cow**, **dog**, **cat** and **bird**.
- Help wash his hands.
- Use a neat pincer grasp - grasp and release.
- Scribble with crayons.
- Pull to stand. Attempt to jump.
- Say what she wants. *“I want juice.”*
- Run, but not well.
- Enjoy looking at one book, over and over.
- Compete with other kids for toys. She seems selfish at times.

Read the Parent Help Line’s *Live Love Grow and Learn* booklets for ideas to help your toddler grow and develop.



Find more tips to help your child
grow and learn at www.parenthelpline.org.

