

# Prepare for Kindergarten Ready in Stages

## 2 - 3 Years

**Toddlers love to imitate adults. They watch, listen and learn from what they see and hear. Children need specific skills as they start Kindergarten.**

**Chart your toddler's skills.**

*By the end of three years, your toddler should:*

- Use 50 – 300 different words.
- Say 3 – 5 word sentences.
- Ask questions like, “**What’s that?**”, “**Who’s that?**”.
- Use speech that can be understood most of the time.
- Be able to play co-operatively with others.
- Stack 6 or more blocks.
- Hold a crayon between his first two fingers and thumb.
- Walk up and down steps.
- Stand on one foot. Stand on tip toes.
- Be able to follow instructions with 2 – 3 steps.
- Name some objects in picture books – **cat**, **dog**, **apple**, **tree**.
- Know familiar people and some body parts.
- Put objects together and take them apart.
- Drink through a straw.
- Drink from a cup without spilling, most of the time.
- Show signs of empathy and affection. Give hugs. Comfort a child who is hurt.
- Be able to jump with both feet.
- Catch and kick a large ball.
- Be able to zip and unzip.

*Your child:*

- Is likely to have temper tantrums.
- Is impatient.
- Is learning to take turns.
- Likes to play make-believe.
- Needs help to calm.
- Wants to be more independent.

**Find Parent Help Line's *Live Love Grow and Learn* booklets for ideas to help your toddler grow and develop at [www.parenthelpline.org](http://www.parenthelpline.org).**



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