

Normal Development: 7 to 8 Years

Physical Development

- Has better large muscle than small muscle coordination.
- Rides a bicycle.
- Starts to alternate rigorous and restful activities independently.
- Favors competitive games.
- Has better eye-hand coordination.
- May ask questions about life, death, and the human body.
- Preoccupied with subject of teeth.

Emotional Development

- Gets better at putting negative feelings into words.
- May blame another for own mistake.

Social Development

- Plays with boys and girls together.
- Usually has a best friend of the same sex.
- Shows growing concern about popularity among peers.
- Seeks approval of peers as well as adults.
- Takes it upon self to enforce rules.
- Tattles on other children who are misbehaving.
- Tends to be quite critical.
- Starts to look for role-models.

Mental Development

- Rapidly develops skill in using language.
- Wants to be "first," "best," "perfect," "correct," in everything.
- Is greatly concerned with right and wrong.
- Has trouble with the concepts of honesty and dishonesty.
- Starts to use logical reasoning to solve problems.
- Enjoys dramatic play.

These guidelines show general progress through the developmental stages rather than fixed requirements. It is perfectly natural for a child to reach some milestones earlier and other milestones later than the general trend. If you have any concerns related to your child's own pattern of development, check with your healthcare provider.

Written by Donna Warner Manczak, PhD, MPH and Robert Brayden, MD.

Pediatric Advisor 2012.2 published by RelayHealth.

Last modified: 2007-12-04

Last reviewed: 2011-09-20

This content is reviewed periodically and is subject to change as new health information becomes available. The information is intended to inform and educate and is not a replacement for medical evaluation, advice, diagnosis or treatment by a healthcare professional.

References

Pediatric Advisor 2012.2 Index

© 2012 RelayHealth and/or its affiliates. All rights reserved.