

Normal Development: 15 to 18 Months

Daily Activities

- Avidly explores everything.
- Revels in water play.
- Likes to feed self.
- Starts to use more objects correctly (for example, may put comb in hair).
- Enjoys throwing, rolling, pushing, pulling toys.

Motor Skills

- Stands unsupported.
- Walks without assistance with wide stance and outstretched arms.
- Climbs stairs with assistance.
- Refines grasp.
- Picks up objects from a standing position.

Language Development

- Knows words for things other than parents.
- Adds gestures to speech.
- Prefers adults to other children.
- Likes to watch and imitate activities.
- Understands more words than he/she can say.

Cognitive Development (Thinking and Learning)

- Looks to parent for help in solving problems.
- Learns cause-effect relationship (repeats enjoyable actions).
- Looks for hidden objects in last place seen.
- Starts to experiment through trial and error.
- TANTRUMS!

Each child is unique. It is difficult to describe exactly what should be expected at each stage of a child's development. While certain behaviors and physical milestones tend to occur at certain ages, a wide range of growth and behavior for each age is normal. These guidelines show general progress through the developmental stages rather than fixed requirements for normal development at specific ages. 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 about your child's own pattern of development, check with your healthcare provider.

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References

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