



Child Development

(2nd Year of Life)

This tip sheet describes some accomplishments your child will likely experience from 1 - 2 years of age.

The information provided here is intended to be a guide.

Remember, however, each child has his or her own plan and pace for growing and learning; no two children are alike. Trust your own instincts and feelings as you watch your child grow. But remember, it's okay to ask questions; it may even affect your child's development.

From age 1 - 2, I will:



- be energetic, mastering walking, pushing, climbing
- repeat actions to get laughs have a decreased appetite
- begin finger-feeding although I'm quite messy
- nap 1-3 hours in the afternoon
- build short block tower
- pick up and carry objects when asked
- want to be independent (say "No!")
- have a short attention span
- become sensitive to moods of others
- develop a vocabulary of 50-250 words

- turn knobs
- enjoy nursery rhymes and short action songs
- begin an interest in pretend play

I need:

- a safe environment for exploring
- opportunities to make my own choices
- clear and reasonable limits and routines
- opportunities to develop and practice language
- praise of efforts to learn new things
- a chance to learn self-feeding (to be messy)
- opportunities to use my arms and legs
- to experience new tastes, textures, sounds and sights
- chances to learn about kindness and feelings

Seek professional assistance if I:

- don't walk without support by 15 months
- don't say words by 2 years old
- prefer to spin or rock; or bang or rub head for long periods of time rather than

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Center of Excellence ♦ Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute ♦ Florida's Children's Forum
Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters ♦ Hillsborough County Head Start ♦ Hillsborough County Even Start

play with toys

Activity Idea

Shopping.

Go when neither you nor your child is hungry or tired. Talk about what you are seeing and doing: "First, we're going to buy some cereal. See, it's in the big red and blue box." Let your child feel the items you buy--a cold carton of milk, the skin of an orange. Be sure to name the objects you see. Let your child practice "hi's" and "bye-bye's" on your outing.



Shopping is one of many ways to surround children with meaningful talk. They need to hear a lot of words in order to learn to communicate themselves. It is helpful to talk about the "here and now" things that are going on in front of your child.

For more information contact....



The Center for Parent Involvement (FCPI) was funded by the U.S. Department of Education; Goals 2000, Educate America Act from 1994-1999. Guided by an advisory board of parents and professionals, the FCPI's goal was to tap the power of parents.

The FCPI gathered information on parent needs, coordinated the information, and created a series of resources organized by theme, including fact sheets for parents and professionals, "Beyond the Basics" resources, and resource identification lists. Many of the resources have been translated into Spanish language versions, and every effort has been made to preserve the meaning and flavor of the original English documents. This series of materials provides a wealth of current information for both parents and providers; the complete set of resources can be obtained in PDF format on the Department of Child and Family Studies Website at www.fmhi.usf.edu/cfs/dares/fcpi. The staff of the FCPI are hopeful that their work will continue to help children get ready to learn for many years to come.

The series' themes include:

- Family Empowerment
- Parent Involvement
- Parenting Support
- School Readiness
- Violence in the Lives of Children
- Transition to Kindergarten

The Center was one component of a project led by Hillsborough County Center of Excellence in collaboration with the Department of Child & Family Studies at USF's de la Parte Institute and the Florida Children's Forum. Other project partners include HIPPIY (Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters), Hillsborough County Head Start and Hillsborough County Even Start. For more information about these projects, call 813.974.4612.

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