



Child Development

(5th Year of Life)

This tip sheet describes some accomplishments your child will likely experience from 4-5 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 4-5, I will:

- Ask many questions (Why???)
- enjoy planning and making

decisions

- tell and make up stories
- walk and run well
- begin to skip or hop
- dress myself completely
- serve myself at the table
- play games with other children
- have a growing understanding of past activities and future activities
- laugh at silly mistakes in pictures
- match and name colors
- show an interest in what letters, words, and numbers say.



I need:

- opportunities to play with groups of children
- praise and encouragement in self-help activities.
- help in anticipating what comes next
- encouragement of my interest in paper and crayon activities
- to have fun with numbers and counting
- opportunities to group things together
- to stretch my imagination
- to see how reading and writing are useful

Seek professional assistance if I:

- have difficulty climbing stairs, catching a ball, using a tricycle
- avoid interactions with others, preferring to play alone
- have difficulty following routines
- am not able to hear and be understood by others.

Remember:

This is a time to develop school readiness behaviors (sharing, taking turns, following simple directions, listening to others).

A project of The Florida Partnership for Parent Involvement

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

A ctivity Idea

Real life math.

Talk a lot about numbers and use number concepts in daily routines with your preschooler.

Cooking. "Let's divide the cookie dough into two parts so we can bake some now and put the rest in the freezer."

Chores. "How many plates do we need on the table? One for you, one for me, one for Freddie; that makes three."

Identification information. Talk about numbers that matter most to your preschooler--her age, her address, her phone number, her height and weight.

Focusing on these personal numbers helps your child learn many important math concepts; time, lengths, weight.

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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