

What your child will learn during this stage of development.

0 – 6 MONTHS



Language & Literacy

COMMUNICATION

- Laughs out loud
- Vocalizes simple consonant sounds (e.g., /m/, /p/, /b/, /n/, /d/)
- Responds to familiar voices
- Answers a sound with another sound
 - Makes “ooh” and “aah” cooing sounds
- Smiles at caregiver
- Responds to own name
- Uses voice to express joy and displeasure

LITERACY

- Explores books using senses (e.g., orally, by touch, sight)
- Looks at clear, simple pictures and designs
- Follows objects with eyes from side to side, focusing both eyes at the same time
- Listens to repetitive stories and songs (e.g., “Mr. Sun,” “Itsy Bitsy Spider,” “Brown Bear, Brown Bear”)



Mathematical Thinking

- Imitates repeated movements
- Explores different properties of objects through senses (e.g., size, shape, texture)



Creative Expression

MUSIC, MUSICIANS, AND MOVEMENT

- Responds differently to a variety of sounds in the indoor and outdoor environments
 - Genres of music, musical instruments, wind chimes, birds chirping, door opening and closing
- Attends to noisemakers
- Explores texture and sensation
- Searches for sound source



Social-Emotional Learning

- Expresses emotions by making sounds
- Notices strangers
- Shows interest in reflection from a mirror
- Becomes upset when another infant is crying; matches response of other infants
- Begins to self-soothe when sad/upset
- Seeks blanket, photo of family, pacifier, favorite book
- Responds to being spoken to
- Responds and expresses a variety of emotions through facial expressions, gestures, movements, and sounds
 - Smiles responsively, coos when comfortable
- Turns away from source of overstimulation or discomfort
- Imitates some movements or facial expressions
- Engages in social play with caregiver
- Watches faces intently, while making eye contact



Wellness

GROSS MOTOR SKILLS AND BALANCE

- Holds head with control when in an upright position
- Engages in tummy time for short periods of time
- Lifts head and chest off floor during tummy time
- Lifts head when on back
 - Moves head side to side when on stomach
- Brings feet to mouth
- Rolls from side to back or from side to stomach
- Reaches out when on stomach
- Allows self to be pulled into a sitting position
- Grasps objects when placed in hand
- Sits with support
- Opens and shuts hands
- Brings hands to mouth



Wellness continued

FINE MOTOR SKILLS

- Reaches for toys
- Grabs toys
- Holds and shakes a rattle
- Grasps with finger and thumb
- Uses hand to “rake” smaller objects