



Benchmarks in Child Development for Two-Year-Olds Parent Tips

Every child develops individually. Benchmarks are to provide *awareness* of the ages and stages of development. You are your child's best teacher and advocate in learning environments and enrichment activities. Become a student of your child to best meet his/her needs.

Benchmarks include:

- Language Development- communication and comprehension skills
- Social/Emotional Development- behavior and relational skills
- Cognitive Development- thinking and problem solving
- Motor Development- physical movement of the body, gross and fine motor skills

Language Development

Combines words in short sentences, responds to questions, simple requests and directions. Participates in conversations to the best of his ability.

Parent Tips

Read to your child.

Talk, sing, and pray together to develop vocabulary.

Social/Emotional Development

Watches and plays briefly with other children. Imitates family members and friends. Shows fears through behavior and play.

Parents Tips

Help identify emotions by name. Allow for choices.

Teach simple tasks.

Keep routine consistent.

Have clear boundaries.

Encourage new tasks.

Cognitive Development

Discovers how things work by experience. Remembers words to familiar songs, prayers and rhymes. Enjoys fantasy play.

Parent Tips

Answer the myriad of questions. Allow learning by exploring, experimentation.

Repetition is good.

Encourage sharing and taking turns.

Provide activities that teach cause and effect, matching, and counting.

Motor Development

Kicks ball, walks up steps, jumps, throws ball, puts simple puzzles together, builds simple structure with blocks.

Parent Tips

Childproof your home.

Teach manners.

Encourage simple hygiene skills (hand washing, teeth brushing).

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