

A Guide to Your Preschooler's Development

Initiative

Making choices and plans

- Child indicates a choice by pointing or some other action.
- Child expresses a choice in one or two words.
- Child expresses a choice with a short sentence.
- Child makes a plan with one or two details.
- Child makes a plan with three or more details.

Solving problems with materials

- Child expresses frustration when encountering a problem with materials.
- Child identifies a problem with materials and asks for help.
- Child tries one way to solve a problem with materials.
- Child tries two ways to solve a problem with materials.
- Child tries three or more ways to solve a problem with materials.

Initiating play

- Child engages in exploratory play.
- Child makes something with materials.
- Child engages in pretend play.
- During play with other children, child adds an idea that modifies the play.
- Child joins with other children in playing a game with rules.

Taking care of personal needs

- Child observes as others do a self-care activity.
- Child accomplishes some parts of a self-care activity.
- Child accomplishes all parts of a self-care activity.
- Child identifies the need for a tool and uses it independently to accomplish a personal goal.
- Child helps another child in a self-care activity or program routine.

Social Relations

Relating to adults

- Child participates in a conversation initiated by a familiar adult.
- Child participates in a conversation initiated by an unfamiliar adult.
- Child initiates an interaction with an adult.
- Child sustains an interaction with an adult.
- Child involves an adult in an activity and sustains the involvement.

Relating to other children

- Child responds when another child initiates an interaction.
- Child initiates an interaction with another child.
- Child sustains an interaction with another child.
- Child invites another child to play.
- Child shows loyalty to another child.

Resolving interpersonal conflict

- In a conflict with another child, child responds with yelling or physical action.
- Child requests adult help in resolving a conflict with another child.
- Child identifies the problem in a conflict with another child.
- With adult help, child offers a solution to a conflict.
- Child negotiates the resolution of a conflict with another child.

Understanding and expressing feelings

- Child expresses an emotion.
- Child comforts another child.
- Child talks about an emotion.
- Child represents an emotion through pretend play or art.
- Child identifies an emotion and gives a reason for it.