



Developmental Milestones of the Young Child

Prof. Kitty Uys.



| Thinking development | Newborn | 3 months | 6 months | 9 months | 1 year | 2 years | 3 years | 5 years |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|--|
| Communication and language | Cries when hungry | Cooes when comfortable | Makes simple sounds | Uses different sounds for different things | Begins to use simple words | Begins to use words together | Uses simple sentences | Knows nursery rhymes, sings songs |
| Social behaviour | Looks at mother during feeding | Smiles when smiled at | Understands 'no' and responds 'no' | Delights in playing with sounds with adult | Begins to do simple things when asked | Likes to be praised after completing a task | Enjoys make-believe social play | Interacts with both adult and child |
| Self-care | Looks at mother when keanly | Takes everything to mouth | Chews solid foods, Begins to drink from a cup with help | Begins to pick food on food tray | Drinks from a cup alone | Takes off simple clothes | Eats with spoon | Baths and dresses independently |
| Attention and interest | Smiles when smiled at | Brief interest in toys and sounds | Delighted response to active play | Develops strong attachment to caretakers | Takes longer interest in toys | Matches miniature toys | Sorts different objects | Builds playthings with several pieces |
| Play | Grasps things placed in hand | Plays with own body | Plays with simple objects | Begins to enjoy first social games (peek-a-boo) | Imitates and copies people | Plays alone voluntarily | Begins to play with other children | Plays independently with children and toys |
| Learning | Cries when angry or uncomfortable | Recognises mother | Recognises several people | Looks for toys out of sight | Copies simple actions | Points to things when asked to | Follows simple instructions | Follows multiple instructions |