What Should I Expect From My Three-year-old?

Physical Development:

- Weight gain of 6 pounds
- Growth of 3 inches in height
- Daytime control of bladder and bowel and possibly nighttime control
- May sleep 10-12 hours nightly with need of afternoon naps decreasing
- Appetite is fairly good, but likes small servings

Language:

- Approximate vocabulary of 900-1000 words
- Asks questions using: What?, Where?, and Who?
- Can carry on a conversation and be understood by strangers;
- Speaks in 3-5 word sentences
- Tries to tell stories and express his feelings
- Knows more words that he can correctly pronounce
- When asked, he can give his own name, age, and sex
- Can sing favorite songs or recite simple nursery rhymes
- Can answer questions like: What do you do when you are sleepy? When you are hungry? When you are thirsty?
- Talks almost constantly
- Tells the action occurring in pictures

Learning and Problem Solving:

- Stays with an activity for 5-10 minutes
- Understands concepts like empty and full, big and little, hot and cold, etc.
- Understands the concept of two, can accurately count 2-3 objects
- Identifies 8 or more body parts
- Listens to stories
- Understands past and present
- Understands how objects are used, like a brush, cup, socks, etc.
- Matches and sorts at least 4 colors
- Follows 3 directions at a time: Pick up the ball, throw it to me, and sit on the floor
- Begins to understand the concept of time
- Acts out real life in play



Motor:

- Draws a horizontal line, vertical line, crossed lines, and a circle
- Strings a small objects on string, like Cheerios or Fruit Loops
- Rides a tricycle
- Jumps in place without falling
- Builds a tower with 9 blocks
- Stands and balances on 1 foot for a few seconds
- Kicks and catches a ball
- Handles and manipulates small objects in his hands
- Opens a door by turning the doorknob
- Draws a person with a circle body and stick arms and legs
- Completes 5-6 piece puzzles
- Holds a pencil appropriately
- Walks forward, sideways, and backwards
- Runs easily
- Climbs stairs by placing both feet on each step or may alternate feet

Self-Help:

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- Dress@sommid upd8@s(s)\(\text{s})\(\text{s}
- Washes and dries hands an SelfS





