

3 Year Old Developmental Milestones

Intellectual	• Can work toys with buttons, levers, and moving parts • Plays make-believe with dolls, animals, and people • Does puzzles with 3 or 4 pieces • Understands what “two” means • Copies a circle with pencil or crayon • Turns book pages one at a time • Builds towers of more than 6 blocks • Screws and unscrews jar lids or turns door handle
Social	• Follows instructions with 2 or 3 steps • Can name most familiar things • Understands words like “in,” “on,” and “under” • Says first name, age, and gender • Names a friend • Says words like “I,” “me,” “we,” and “you” and some plurals (cars, dogs, cats) • Talks well enough for strangers to understand most of the time • Carries on a conversation using 2 to 3 sentences
Emotional	• Copies adults and friends • Shows affection for friends without prompting • Takes turns in games • Shows concern for crying friend • Understands the idea of “mine” and “his” or “hers” • Shows a wide range of emotions • Separates easily from mom and dad • May get upset with major changes in routine • Dresses and undresses self
Physical	• Climbs well • Runs easily • Pedals a tricycle (3-wheel bike) • Walks up and down stairs, one foot on each step