



CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Have you ever wondered if your child's development is typical for their age? How do you know if they are on the right track? Although no two children develop at exactly the same rate, experts will agree that there are "normal" signs of development.

SENSORY AND COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

By 3 years of age does your child:

- recognize sounds in the environment
- remember what happened yesterday
- know what is food and what is not food
- know some numbers (but not always in the right order)
- know where things usually belong
- understand what "1" is
- understand "now," "soon," and "later"
- substitute one object for another in pretend play (as in pretending a block is a "car")
- laugh at silly ideas (like "milking" a dog)
- listen attentively to age-appropriate stories
- make relevant comments during stories, especially those that relate to home and family events
- enjoy stories with riddles, guessing, and "suspense"
- look through a book alone and may pretend to "read" to others or explain pictures
- match circles and squares
- match an object to a picture of that object
- match objects that have same function (as in putting a cup and plate together)
- count 2 to 3 objects
- avoid some dangers, like a hot stove or a moving car
- follow simple one-step commands

Watch for these signs in your child over a one month period. (Even children have "bad days.") Remember, if your child was born earlier than expected; be sure to deduct the number of months born early from his or her age. A 5-month-old born 2 months early would be expected to show the same skills as a 3-month-old who was full term.

If you have questions regarding your child's development, please do not hesitate to call Sandi Klatt, Coordinator of Early Learning and Care for South East Cornerstone School Division.