

For Parents with a Four-year-old Child

Every child develops at his or her own pace.
Your four-year-old might be ready for these activities.

Approaches to Learning

- Plays board or card games

Physical Development and Health

- Hops and stands on one foot up to 2 seconds
- Catches a bounced ball most of the time
- Pours, cuts with supervision, and mashes own food
- Uses scissors

Social and Emotional Development

- Enjoys doing new things
- Would rather play with other children than by himself
- Cooperates with other children
- Talks about what she likes and what she is interested in
- Can say first and last name

Communication, Language and Literacy

- Knows some basic rules of grammar, such as correctly using “he” and “she”
- Sings a song or says a poem from memory
- Tells stories
- Remembers parts of a story

- Names some colors and some numbers
- Understands the idea of “same” and “different”
- Starts to copy some capital letters
- Tells you what he thinks is going to happen next in a book

Knowledge of Mathematics, Visual Arts, and Dramatic Play

- Understands the idea of counting
- Starts to understand time
- Draws a person with 2 to 4 body parts
- Plays “Mom” and “Dad”
- Is more and more creative with make-believe play

Talk, read, sing, play, and move together every day.

Parents: You know your child best. If you have any concerns about your child’s development, talk with your child’s medical provider. If your child goes to a preschool program, talk with your child’s teacher, too.