

For Parents with a Five-year-old Child

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

Physical Development and Health

- Stands on one foot for 10 seconds or longer
- Hops, may be able to skip
- Can do a somersault
- Uses a fork and spoon and sometimes a table knife
- Can use the toilet on her own
- Swings and climbs

Social and Emotional Development

- Wants to please friends
- Wants to be like friends
- More likely to agree with rules
- Is aware of gender
- Shows more independence
- Says name and address

Communication, Language and Literacy

- Speaks very clearly
- Tells a simple story using full sentences
- Uses future tense; for example, "Grandma will be here"
- Can print some letters or numbers

Knowledge of Mathematics, Visual Arts, and Dramatic Play

- Counts 10 or more things
- Can draw a person with at least 6 body parts
- Copies a triangle and other geometric shapes
- Knows about things used every day, like money and food
- Likes to sing, dance, act

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.