

Children will grow at different rates, these skills may develop this year

### Communication Skills

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- Says sentences of 5-6 words; uses adult-like grammar
- Uses past, present and future tenses
- Knows common opposites
- Understands “same” and “different”
- Can tell a story with a simple plot
- Speech understood 90-100% of the time

### Fine Motor Skills

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- Holds pencil with 3 fingers
- Draws a person with 6 or more body parts
- May show a preference for left or right hand

### Gross Motor Skills

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- Enjoys active play on jungle gyms, roller skating, jumping rope, riding a bicycle
- Alternates feet when walking down stairs
- Can do a somersault
- Can hop and starting to skip

### Personal Social Skills

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- Thinks everyone sees the world as he/she does
- Wants to please and be like friends
- Showing more independence
- Can tell what is real and what is make-believe
- Can use toilet without help, but may occasionally have accidents

### Problem Solving Skills

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- Learning to write letters and numbers, but not perfectly
- Counts 10 or more objects
- Says name and address

### Communication Activities

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- Talk about how 2 objects are the same and different (bird/airplane, knife/fork, chair/bench)
- Take turns describing/guessing items you see or are thinking about
- Pick words and have your child name the opposite
- When in the car, talk about words that rhyme or start with the same sound
- Pick or create wordless books and take turns telling a story

### Fine Motor Activities

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- Using plastic droppers and colored water, let child create tie-dye creations on coffee filters
- Using a large piece of Styrofoam, golf tees and a plastic hammer, allow your child to pound golf tees
- Provide colored paper and hole punches to let your child punch holes and glue on paper to create pictures

### Gross Motor Activities

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- Make obstacle course using boxes, chairs and pillows, letting child hop and jump to complete the course
- Make an adventure path outside using a garden hose or chalk to make a “path” that goes under and around objects for your child to walk on
- Make homemade bean bags, fill old sock with beans and tie closed, use to play catch or “hot potato”

### Personal Social and Problem Solving Activities

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- “Write” and mail a letter to a friend or relative. Child can draw picture or tell you what to write down, let the child place in envelope, address, stamp it and deliver to the post office
- Practice writing numbers and letters in pudding or thinned mashed potatoes