

# CHARACTERISTICS OF PRESCHOOLERS

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STAGES		TRUST		AUTONOMY		INITIATIVE		
AGES		Infants (0-8 months)	Infants (8-14 months)	Toddlers (14-24 months)	Twos (24-36 months)	(Threes)	(Fours)	(Fives)
NEEDS		COMFORT	CONSISTENCY	COMPETENCE	CONTROL	CREATIVITY	CONFIDENCE	CHALLENGE
PHYSICAL		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gains control of neck and back muscles</li> <li>Learns to reach for, grasp, drop items</li> <li>Learns to sit alone</li> <li>Begins teething</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Triples birth weight</li> <li>Crawls and scoots</li> <li>Uses hands together</li> <li>Learns to stand</li> <li>Climbs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Walks, climbs</li> <li>Eats finger food</li> <li>Drinks from a cup</li> <li>Likes push-pull, tug-tug, fill-dump activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Runs, stands, on tiptoes</li> <li>Scribbles</li> <li>Learns potty control</li> <li>Cuts all baby teeth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is nimble on feet</li> <li>Cuts with scissors</li> <li>Is potty trained</li> <li>Dislikes nap time; sleeps restlessly at night</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hops, gallops, balances</li> <li>Draws recognizable pictures</li> <li>Shows good line motor control</li> <li>Needs physical activity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Skips, somersaults</li> <li>Ties knots</li> <li>Cuts permanent teeth</li> <li>Shows hand-eye coordination</li> </ul>
	MENTAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Responds to his name</li> <li>Knows familiar people and voices</li> <li>Explores hands and feet</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Handles and mouths everything</li> <li>Opens and closes hinged items</li> <li>Understands some words</li> <li>Says first word</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Says about 10 words</li> <li>Understands object permanence</li> <li>Knows several body parts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Solves problems by thinking</li> <li>Exhibits short attention span</li> <li>Speaks in 3-Or- 3 word sentences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remembers short songs and rhymes</li> <li>Develops imagination and creativity</li> <li>Experiences fears</li> <li>Is literal-minded</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remembers own name and address</li> <li>Cannot separate fact and fantasy</li> <li>Ask "how" questions</li> <li>Improves language skills</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Likes new challenges</li> <li>Asks "why" questions</li> <li>Thinks concretely</li> <li>Matches, sorts, classifies, sequences</li> <li>Utilizes a 2000 word vocabulary</li> </ul>
	EMORIONAL/SOCIAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Likes attention</li> <li>Smiles</li> <li>Coos and babbles</li> <li>Enjoys sucking and gumming objects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cries when mother leaves</li> <li>Cries with strangers</li> <li>Is usually congenial</li> <li>Likes to play with adults</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shows great independence</li> <li>Is learning mine; does not understand yours</li> <li>Becomes easily frustrated</li> <li>Enjoys parallel play</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exhibits negativism</li> <li>Is egocentric</li> <li>Cannot share</li> <li>Is flexible</li> <li>Enjoys dramatic play</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Likes to please adults</li> <li>Shows self-control</li> <li>Likes to talk</li> <li>Begins cooperative play</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shows overconfidence</li> <li>Is bossy and brags</li> <li>Defies authority</li> <li>Enjoys silliness</li> <li>Can take turns</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develops personal identity</li> <li>Likes to please adults</li> <li>Cooperate with peers</li> <li>Begins to share well</li> <li>Enjoys small-group play</li> </ul>
	SPIRITUAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Responds to happy times at church</li> <li>May associate names to God and Jesus with good feelings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Likes same teachers at church</li> <li>May recognize names of God and Jesus</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develops attitudes toward church</li> <li>May recognize Bible</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May respond to Bible stories and songs</li> <li>May recognize Jesus and God as special</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can listen to Bible stories</li> <li>May enjoy handling the Bible</li> <li>Begins developing a conscience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can listen to Bible stories</li> <li>May enjoy handling the Bible</li> <li>Begins developing a conscience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May express love for God and Jesus</li> <li>Loves family and friends</li> <li>Likes to take care of things God made</li> <li>Continues developing conscience</li> </ul>