

Birth to 11 months

1. stops crying when talked to or comforted
2. looks at adult face for several seconds
3. interacts by smiling and cooing
4. recognizes familiar faces and objects
5. enjoys frolic play
6. demands social attention
7. express feelings such as anger, tiredness, excitement or hunger
8. comforts self (i.e. quits fussing by himself or herself)
9. knows the difference between caregivers and strangers (e.g. smiles at loved ones; stares quiet or refuses to smile at stranger)
10. repeats activity that elicits laughter from observer
11. smiles at mirror image
12. plays alone for short periods (10 to 15 seconds)
13. when someone calls the child's name, he or she looks at the person and vocalizes

12 months to 23 months

1. extends arms to familiar persons
2. responds differently to child and adults
3. imitates facial expressions
4. recognizes face in the mirror
5. plays simple games (e.g. peek-a-boo, pat-a-cake)
6. shows anxiety at separation from caregiver (e.g. refusal to explore environment, crying, searching)
7. express affection (e.g. hugging, patting, special looks, resting head)
8. shows special dependence on primary caregiver (e.g. wants only that person to feed, dress, change and comfort him or her)
9. plays ball cooperatively
10. laughs at incongruous event (e.g. wearing bowl for hat)
11. purposefully refuses to comply with requests

24 months to 35 months

1. beginning to function on his or her own; may periodically return to the parent for reassurance and attention
2. brings toys to share with caregiver
3. has difficulty sharing with other children
4. has temper tantrums when frustrated
5. has difficulty sharing with others
6. insists on trying to do many things without help (e.g. eating with spoon, putting on a coat)
7. feels strongly possessive of loved ones
8. values own property, uses word "mine"
9. shows independence (e.g. runs ahead of parents outdoors, refuses to have hand held)
10. plays well for brief times in groups of two or three children
11. enjoys simple make-believe
12. says "please" and "thank you"; may need to be reminded
13. attempts to comfort others in distress (e.g. comforts a child who is hurt or distressed)

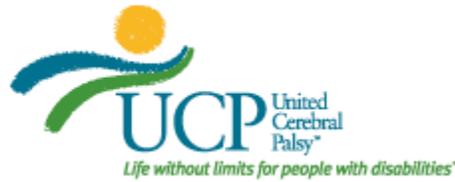
36 months to 47 months

1. separates from parent in familiar surroundings without crying
2. sings familiar songs with adults
3. spontaneously greets familiar person by hugging
4. usually take turns
5. puts toys away neatly when asked (may have to be reminded)
6. follows rules by adults for new activities or simple games
7. spends most group time in solitary activity, watching other children
8. laughs at combinations of incongruous events and use of words (e.g. milking a dog)
9. asks for assistance when having difficulty
10. shows whether he or she is a boy or a girl



48 months to 71 months

1. plays dress-up
2. shows off by repeating rhymes, songs or dances for others
3. talks about own feelings
4. changes from one activity to another when required by teacher or parent
5. selects own friends
6. waits for turn when playing in group games (e.g. Red Rover, Steal the Bacon)
7. responds appropriately to instructions given in a small group
8. knows and follows classroom rules
9. gains attention from peers in appropriate ways
10. understands rules of fair play
11. likes competitive games
12. has best friend of same sex
13. asks before using another belongings
14. accepts mild, friendly teasing without becoming too agitated
15. works alone at chore for 20 to 30 minutes
16. expresses anger with non-aggressive words rather than with physical action
17. states goal for himself and herself and carries out activity
18. accepts valid criticism without crying, pouting or refusing to continue
19. answers the phone, remembers a simple message and delivers it to the correct person



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**Understanding Disabilities
Creating Opportunities**

Social- Emotional Development



Social emotional development is critical to all areas of development. It is the growing capacity to relate emotionally, ethically and intellectually to the world outside of oneself.

A child who is curious, creative, confident and has a good self-esteem is eager to learn. Children must be encouraged to express their curiosity by self-directed exploration and experimentation.

Children must be free to discuss and negotiate with their peers. Children then learn to express their own ideas and feelings as well as considering others.

Here is a checklist to see if your child's social-emotional skills are developing on track.

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