Your Child’s Developmental Important Milestones: (24 Months - 36 Months)

Social

- Imitates adults and playmates
- Spontaneously shows affection for familiar playmates
- Can take turns in games
- Understand concept of “mine” and “his/hers”

Emotional

- Expresses affection openly
- Expresses a wide range of emotions
- By 3, separates easily from parents
- Objects to major change in routine

Cognitive

- Makes mechanical toys work
- Matches an object in his/her hand or room to picture book
- Plays make believe with dolls, animals, and people
- Sorts objects by shapes and colors
- Completes puzzle with three or four pieces
- Understands concept of “two”

Language

- Follows two or three part command
- Recognizes and identifies almost all common objects and pictures
- Understands most sentences
- Understands placement in space (“on”, “in”, “under”)
- Uses 4 to 5 words sentences
- Can say name, age, sex
- Uses pronouns (I, you, me, we, they) and some plurals (cars, dog, cats)
- Strangers can understand most of his/her words

Movement

- Climbs well
- Walks up and down stairs, alternating feet (one foot per stair step)
- Kick ball
- Runs easily
- Pedals tricycle
- Bends over easily without falling
Hand and Finger Skills

☐ Makes up and down, side to side, and circular lines with pencil or crayon
☐ Turns book pages on at a time
☐ Builds tower of more than six blocks
☐ Holds pencil in writing position
☐ Screws and unscrews jars, lids, nuts, and bolts
☐ Turns rotating handle

Developmental Health Watch

Alert your child’s doctor or nurse if your child displays any of the following signs of possible developmental delay for this age range.

☐ Frequent falling and difficulty with stairs
☐ Persistent drooling or very unclear speech
☐ Cannot build a tower of more than four blocks
☐ Difficultly manipulating small objects
☐ Cannot copy a circle by age 3
☐ Cannot communicate in short phrases
☐ No involvement in “pretend” play
☐ Does not understand simple instructions
☐ Little interest in other children
☐ Extreme difficulty separating from mother or primary caregiver
☐ Poor eye contact
☐ Limited interest in toys
☐ Experiences a dramatic loss in skill he or she once had

Adapted from the New Jersey’s Early Intervention Center