

Stages of Development

18 to 36 months

Physically: They are very active, but don't have much control of their movements.

Expectations:

- We expect them to stumble on most activities and show very little skill in their gross and fine motor skills.

Goals:

- The physical goals for our program are to get them to perform basic exercises and activities with control such as stepping and jumping without falling, kicking while bending their knees, and punching while pulling their other hand back.
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Intellectually: Their thinking skills are all across the board, which makes it hard for them to anticipate what's coming next. Therefore, their attention span will be very limited.

Expectations:

- We expect them to lose focus often during class, and quickly become distracted.

Goals:

- The intellectual goals for our program are to get them to focus on the task at hand with minimal distractions, such as listening to the instructor, thinking about what comes next in activities, and following directions.

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Emotionally: Their feelings are very strong, but they are still not at the stage to recognize why. Therefore, they will show a wide range of strong emotions that are not quickly controllable.

Expectations:

- We expect them to throw temper tantrums when they don't get their way, and run around uncontrollably if they get too excited.

Goals:

- The emotional goals for our program are to help them have patience during activities despite how challenging they are.
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Socially: Language development has a big influence on their social development. They will imitate others, but will quickly fight for personal space when they feel too crowded.

Expectations:

- We expect them to interact on a very basic level, but at the same time be more involved in "parallel" play.

Goals:

- The social goals for our program are to help them interact positively by sharing as well as showing respect to the other people in class.