

Child Development – things to know!



Children learn and grow at different rates and this is called child development. Children reach “milestones” at certain ages. The main types are:

Physical – as they grow taller and heavier, and learn to do things like crawl and walk.

Cognitive – how they think, learn to reason, judge. **Language falls in this area.**

Social and Emotional - how they get along with others and connect.



Remember children develop at different rates. Don't worry if your child reaches a milestone a couple months later than your friend's child. Walking is a good example. On the average, children take their first step when they are about 11 months, but many children don't walk until they are 17 months. Some walk as early as nine months. As a general rule don't worry until your child is about 6 months past the average.



Knowing some information about child development will help you as a parent know what can be reasonably expected from your child at different ages. It can help you teach, discipline and nurture. It gives you some idea of what you can ask them to do within their developmental level. It also helps you be more patient.

Rhymers will be Readers!!! Research in literacy and child development has found that if children know eight nursery rhymes by heart by the time they are four years old they are usually among the best readers by the time they are eight.

Songs and Rhymes provide comforting rhythms in children's early lives and expose them to many forms of language.

From songs children learn: Words, sentences, rhythm, rhyme and repetition.



Parents can also use them to help them calm, distract, teach and amuse their children in everyday life.