

## Developmental Milestones of Toddlers (12-24 months)

Each child develops at his/her own pace, so it's impossible to tell exactly when any child will master a given skill. The developmental milestones below will give you a general idea of the accomplishments you can expect in your child during their year in the Explorer and Toddlers classrooms.

### Cognitive Milestones

- Explores objects in many different ways (shaking, banging, throwing, dropping)
- Finds hidden objects easily
- Looks at correct picture when the image is named
- Imitates gestures
- Begins to use objects correctly (drinking from cup, brushing hair, dialing phone, listening to receiver)

### Language Milestones

- Pays increasing attention to speech
- Responds to simple verbal requests
- Responds to “no”
- Uses simple gestures, such as shaking head for “no”
- Babbles with inflection (changes in tone)
- Says “dada” and “mama”
- Uses exclamations, such as “Oh-oh!”
- Tries to imitate words

### Gross Motor Milestones

- Reaches sitting position without assistance
- Crawls forward on belly
- Assumes hands-and-knees position
- Creeps on hands and knees
- Gets from sitting to crawling or prone (lying on stomach) position
- Pulls self up to stand
- Walks holding on to furniture
- Stands momentarily without support
- May walk two or three steps without support

### Fine Motor Milestones

- Uses pincer grasp
- Bangs two objects together
- Puts objects into container
- Takes objects out of container
- Lets objects go voluntarily

- Pokes with index finger
- Tries to imitate scribbling

## **Social Milestones**

- Cries when mother or father leaves
- Enjoys imitating people in his play
- Shows specific preferences for certain people and toys
- Tests parental responses to his actions during feedings
- Tests parental responses to his behavior
- May be fearful in some situations
- Prefers mother and/or regular caregiver over all others
- Repeats sounds or gestures for attention
- Finger-feeds himself
- Extends arm or leg to help when being dressed