

## Fine Motor Skills

These are to be considered approximations. ***All children develop differently, and at their own individual rate.*** If your child is *significantly* delayed in meeting developmental milestones, discuss this with your pediatrician and/or contact educational experts in your community and inquire about the need for further evaluation.

### Age: 1-0 to 1-6

- Unwraps loosely-wrapped, small objects
- Attempts to build tower
- Builds tower with 2-5 blocks
- Makes whole arm strokes which may form an arc and go off page
- Controls drooling
- Lifts glass or cup from table to drink
- Returns glass to table after drinking
- Holds glass with both hands to drink without aid
- Chews and swallows semi-solid food
- Chews and swallows solid food
- Takes spoon filled with food from plate to mouth with some spilling
- Manipulates spoon in plate to scoop food
- Sucks from a straw
- Cooperates in undressing
- Removes socks
- Removes shoes
- Removes coat
- Unties bow
- Unsnaps front
- Dries hands with assistance

### Age: 2-0

- Nests or stacks objects graduated in size
- Turns knobs (TV, radio, toy)
- Turns door knobs to open door
- Makes stirring movement
- Cuts dough to soft clay with cookie cutter
- Builds tower with 6-9 blocks
- Scribbles-seldom goes off page
- Holds pencil/crayon with fingers-not correctly, but not with fist
- Imitates or copies circle, vertical line, horizontal line, wide letter V
- Places scissors on fingers and holds comfortably/correctly
- Opens and closes scissors
- Paints with some wrist action or scrubbing movement
- Regards process as more important than end product
- Experiments with vertical and horizontal lines, dots and circular movements
- Manipulates clay
- Pounds, hitting against clay or hitting clay against table
- Squeezes clay with fingers and hands
- Pulls clay apart

### Age: 3-0

Folds paper  
Strings 12 mm (1/2 inch) beads  
Builds tower with 9 blocks  
Completes simple geometric inset puzzle  
Attempts to draw a ball or apple when demonstrated  
Imitates or copies cross, square, triangle, rectangle  
Cuts 13 cm (5 inch) piece of paper in two pieces  
Gives names to pictures which may not be readily understandable to others  
Makes flat round cakes with clay  
Polls ropes with clay  
Makes balls with clay

**Age: 3-6**

Winds up toy  
Unscrews and screws 25 mm (1 inch) lid  
Sorts dissimilar objects  
Copies models printed including a cross, square, triangle and rectangle

**Age: 4-6**

Completes geometric inset puzzle with 6-10 pieces

**Age: 5-0**

Folds paper diagonally and creases it  
Opens lock with a key  
Sews through holds in sewing cards  
Opens and closes large safety pin  
Completes geometric inset puzzle with 11-15 pieces  
Completes non-inset puzzle with 12 or fewer pieces  
Grasps pencil correctly  
Colors apple staying within the lines  
Traces letters  
Makes circles between writing lines  
Makes vertical lines between writing lines  
Draws a person with 4-6 recognizable, distinct body parts  
Cuts 13 cm (5 inch) circle within 12 mm (1/2 inch) in 35 seconds  
Cuts 13 cm (5 inch) circle within 6 mm (1/4 inch) in 35 seconds  
Cuts 13 cm (5 inch) curving line within 6 mm (1/4 inch) in 35 seconds  
Evaluates or criticizes own painting  
Makes refined objects