

Red Flags in Preschool Development

Children's work as a preschooler is to learn and build their school readiness skills, which include intellectual, social-emotional, self-help, and motor development. Intellectual, or cognitive, development refers to the child's ability to gather and use information by using all five senses and integrating that with his the experiences stored in his memory. Language development includes your child's ability to understand what is said to him and the ability to communicate with words. Motor development refers to your child's ability to use his large muscles for walking or running and also his use of small muscles in the hands, feet, and jaw.

Three and four year olds should consistently be able to:

- Walk, run, and jump
- Put together 3-4 piece puzzles
- Scribble on paper using a crayon or marker
- Talk in sentences (3-4 words)
- Understand what adults ask him or her to do (1-2 step directions)
- Play with a toy beside another child
- Talk clear enough so that at least 50% of what he says is understood by the listener

If you have any concerns about your child's development, FDLRS/Child Find provides free child development screenings. Appointments may be scheduled by calling 850-872-4857 (Bay County) or toll free 1-866-277-6616.