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Domains of Development - Preschoolers

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DOMAINS OF DEVELOPMENT

In early childhood, development is categorized into several key domains, each critical to a child's holistic growth. These domains include approaches to learning, cognition, social-emotional development, language & communication, & physical development.

Social Emotional Development

Cognition

Approaches to Learning

Language & Communication

Physical Development

Domains of Development

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DOMAINS OF DEVELOPMENT
(Preschoolers 3 Years Old)

Domains Of Development	Learning Objectives
Cognitive (Creative thinking, memory, numeracy, grouping, sorting, comparing, measuring, predicting, and conceptual knowledge of the natural/physical world around them)	• Carries out 2-to-3 step directions • Can distinguish between "same" and "different" • Sorts and organizes materials by shape and color • Makes connections of one event and place to another (e.g. "I hear this song at school, too") • Understands the different parts/order of events of the day (morning, afternoon, and night)
Approaches to Learning (How children learn; Initiative, curiosity, persistence, problem-solving, and attentiveness)	• May begin to ask "why?" more frequently • Begins to form personal interests (e.g. dinosaurs, transportation, princesses, etc.) • Use materials/objects to carry out an idea (e.g. go in a cardboard box and pretend its a car) • Finding new ways to use familiar materials
Social-Emotional (Self-regulation, self-awareness, social-awareness, relationship skills)	• Begins to express emotions • Comprehends possessions ("mine" and "theirs") • Uneasy when daily routine is changed • Will seek out and ask caregivers for help • Begins to show more interest in other children
Language, Communication & Hearing (Receptive and expressive language & physical communication)	• At least 75% of speech is intelligible • Understands prepositions such as "on," "in," "over," and "under" • Uses four-to-five word sentences at a time • Enjoys listening to and discussing storybooks • Pretends to read and write
Physical (fine and gross motor skills, strength, coordination, and visual perception)	• Can catch, kick, and throw a ball • Successfully pedals a tricycle • Goes up and down steps using alternating feet • Runs well with occasional falling • Cuts with developmentally appropriate scissors • Replicates circles and squares

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DOMAINS OF DEVELOPMENT
(Preschoolers 4 Years Old)

Domains Of Development	Learning Objectives
Cognitive (Creative thinking, memory, numeracy, grouping, sorting, comparing, measuring, predicting, and conceptual knowledge of the natural/physical world around them)	• Recalls different parts of a story • Follows through with 3-step demands • Makes predictions as to what they think may happen next (in reality, stories, etc.) • Understands the concept of opposites • Can correctly and consistently label four colors
Approaches to Learning (How children learn; Initiative, curiosity, persistence, problem-solving, and attentiveness)	• Begins collecting objects/materials of interest (e.g. rock collection, sticker collection, etc.) • Will acquire various resources to support personal interests (e.g. if interested in dinosaurs, will bring dinosaur toys, books, and relative materials together. • Seeks thorough explanations of their interests, or rather, an extension on their "why/s?"
Social-Emotional (Self-regulation, self-awareness, social-awareness, relationship skills)	• Prefers to play with their peers • Begins to establish real friendships • More comfortably shares/take turns with peers • Experiences a wider range of emotions, including jealousy, embarrassment, etc.
Language, Communication & Hearing (Receptive and expressive language & physical communication)	• Speech is 100% intelligible • Asks "how?" and "wh" questions ("what?" "who?" "when?" "where?" and "why?") • Uses five-to-six word sentences at a time • Identifies the characters and plot of a story
Physical (fine and gross motor skills, strength, coordination, and visual perception)	• Can write some letters of the alphabet • Independently dresses themselves and can brush their own teeth • Briefly balances on one foot • Draws a simple person with at least 4 body parts • May be able to skip • Uses toilet independently/"potty trained"

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DOMAINS OF DEVELOPMENT

(Preschool & Kindergarten 5/6 Years Old)

Domains Of Development	Learning Objectives
Approaches to Learning (How children learn; Initiative, curiosity, persistence, problem-solving, and attentiveness)	• Collaborates in play with 2 or more children • Utilizes prior knowledge and makes connections to new experiences and knowledge • Participates in new experiences with new tools and materials • Persists despite distraction or frustration. Comes back to tasks.
Social-Emotional (Self-regulation, self-awareness, social-awareness, relationship skills)	• Seeks assistance/support from trusted individuals • Identifies & expresses emotions using coping strategies • Acknowledges the feelings of others • Attempts to resolve social conflict (turn-taking, compromise)
Cognition (Creative thinking, memory, numeracy, grouping, sorting, comparing, measuring, predicting, and conceptual knowledge of the natural/physical world around them)	• Compares numbers - less than/more than • Counts objects one-to-one and with cardinality (1 - 20) • Awareness that print is read from left-right and top-bottom • Experiments with building larger shapes from smaller shapes • Uses different words demonstrating understanding of time (before, after, next, today, tomorrow, morning, etc.)
Communication/Literacy (Receptive and expressive language, print awareness, and early reading skills)	• Displays phonological awareness playing with syllables & rhyme. • Develops ideas and questions about a text; answers questions about a text (retelling, identifying characters, events and setting, makes inferences to context to answer questions). • Uses a combination of writing or drawing to convey an idea.
Physical Development (fine and gross motor skills, strength, coordination, and visual perception)	• Can write their first and last name • Dresses and undresses themselves. Can button/zippers clothing. • Swings on a swing using pumping action • Throws a ball with direction and accuracy

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