Appendix A Child Development Charts

How to use these child development charts

Children develop in several main areas: **physical** (body), **mental** (mind), **communication** (gesturing or talking), and **social** (relating to other people). Some skills a child learns include all these areas. For example, when a child reaches her arms up to be held, she is using a:

- physical skill she holds up her arms
- mental skill she recognizes you
- communication skill she tells you what she wants
- social skill she enjoys being held by you

The charts on pages 178 to 183 show some of the skills children learn and when most children learn them. You can use the chart to get general information about how children develop and to help you decide what skills your child needs to learn.



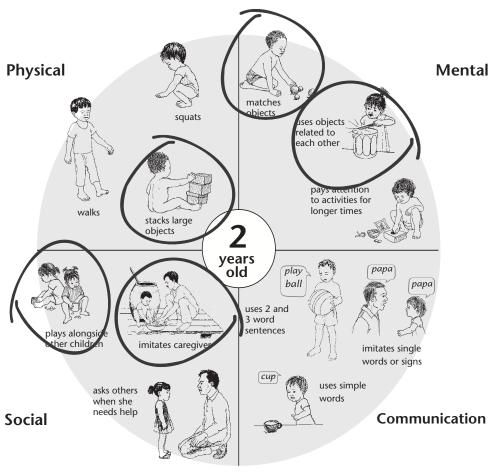
The charts show how children's physical skills change as children grow.

► To help you decide what skills your child needs to learn

Find the chart for the age group closest to your child's age. On the chart, circle the skills your child has. You may find your child does not have some skills that other children his age have. Knowing this can help you decide which activities you want to work on with your child.

If your child is behind

Use this book as a guide. Each chapter in the book explains more about these skills and the order in which skills need to be learned. It is important to work on the skills your child needs to learn next, not the skills other children his age are learning. Trying to teach a child skills before he is ready will lead to disappointment for both you and your child.

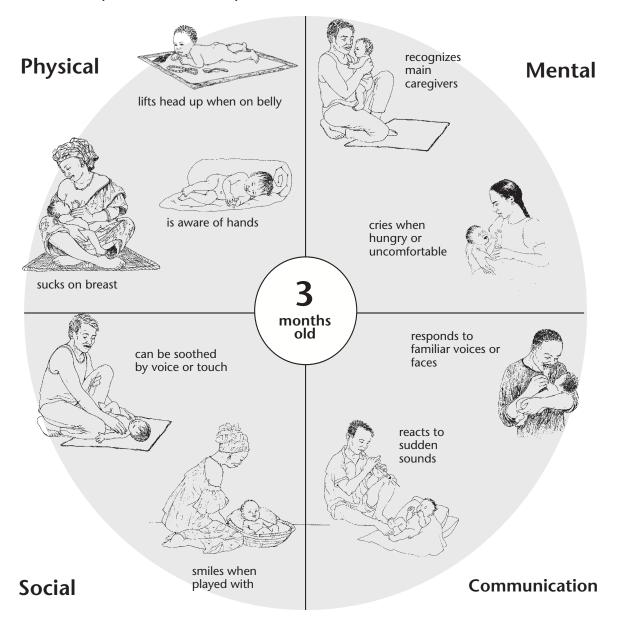


In the chart above, a mother has circled the skills her 20-month-old daughter can do. Her child needs activities to help her gain physical and communication skills.

Look first in the chapters that focus on the skills you want to teach your child, but you will find useful information in other chapters as well.

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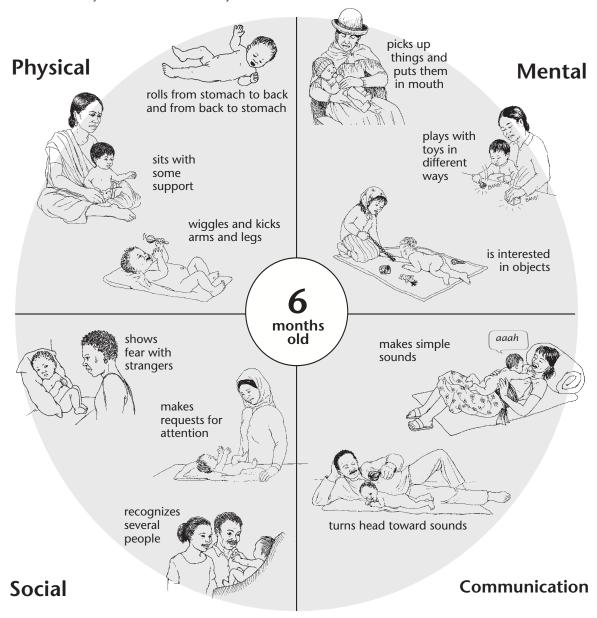
Each part of this circle shows a different area of development. The pictures and words are examples of skills that many babies have when they are 3 months old.



Babies who cannot do 2 skills in any part of the circle will benefit from activities that help babies develop in that area, but the pictures are only **examples** of skills. For example, in the Communication part of the circle: You do not have to play the flute! The question to ask yourself is if your baby reacts to a sudden sound.

Keep in mind that a baby will learn best by doing activities that other babies the same age do in your community.

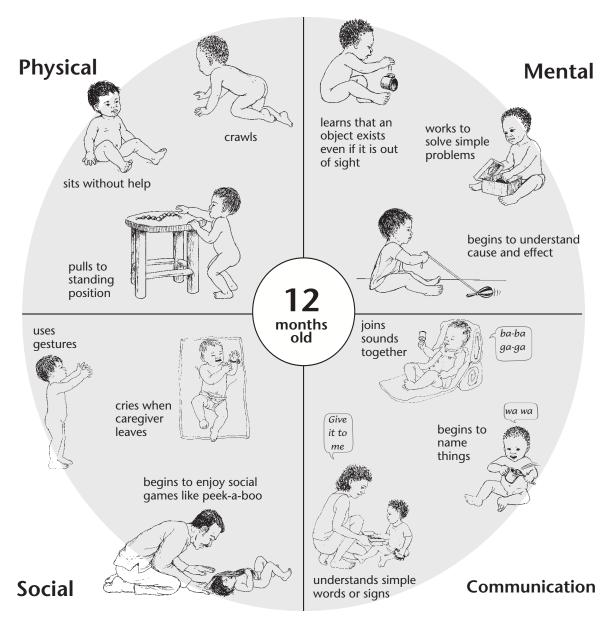
Each part of this circle shows a different area of development. The pictures and words are examples of skills that many babies have when they are 6 months old.



Babies who cannot do 2 skills in any part of the circle will benefit from activities that help babies develop in that area, but the pictures are only **examples** of skills. For example, in the Physical part of the circle: Your baby does not have to play with a rattle. The question to ask yourself is if your baby wiggles and kicks.

Keep in mind that a baby will learn best by doing activities that other babies the same age do in your community.

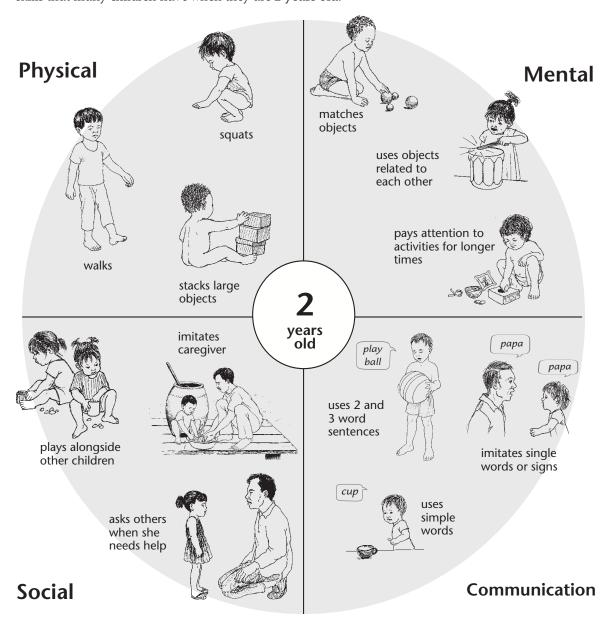
Each part of this circle shows a different area of development. The pictures and words are examples of skills that many babies have when they are 12 months old.



Babies who cannot do 2 skills in any part of the circle will benefit from activities that help babies develop in that area, but the pictures are only **examples** of skills. For example, in the Social part of the circle: You do not have to play peek-a-boo with your baby. The question to ask yourself is if your baby enjoys social games.

Keep in mind that a baby will learn best by doing activities that other babies the same age do in your community.

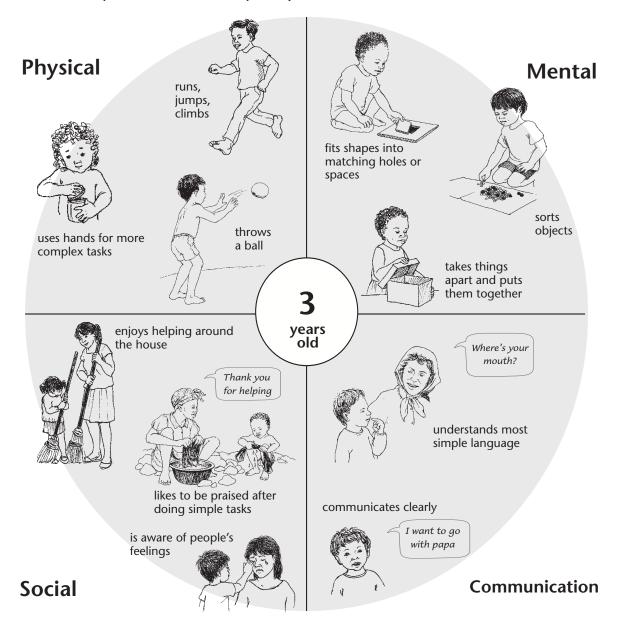
Each part of this circle shows a different area of development. The pictures and words are examples of skills that many children have when they are **2 years old**.



Children who cannot do 2 skills in any part of the circle will benefit from activities that help children develop in that area, but the pictures are only **examples** of skills. For example, in the Mental part of the circle: Your child does not have to be able to play a drum. The question to ask yourself is if your child uses 2 objects together.

Keep in mind that a child will learn best by doing activities that other children the same age do in your community.

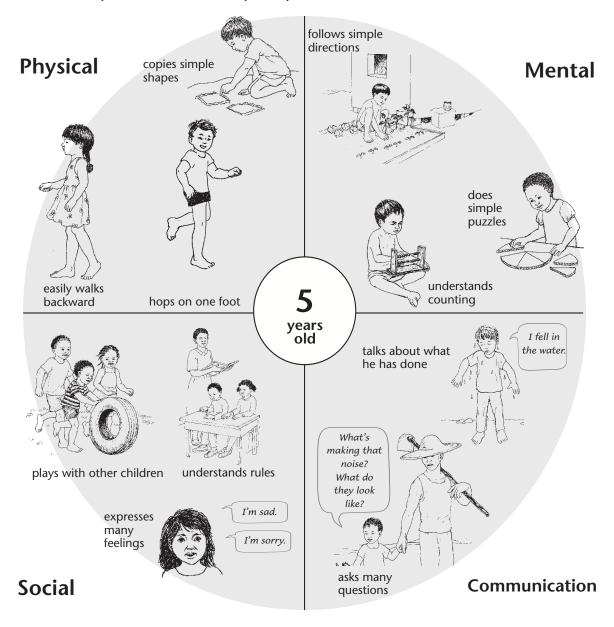
Each part of this circle shows a different area of development. The pictures and words are examples of skills that many children have when they are 3 years old.



Children who cannot do 2 skills in any part of the circle will benefit from activities that help children develop in that area, but the pictures re only **examples** of skills. For example, in the Social part of the circle: Your child does not have to sweep the floor. The question to ask yourself is if your child enjoys helping work with the family.

Keep in mind that a child will learn best by doing activities that other children the same age do in your community.

Each part of this circle shows a different area of development. The pictures and words are examples of skills that many children have when they are 5 years old.



Children who cannot do 2 skills in any part of the circle will benefit from activities that help children develop in that area, but the pictures are only **examples** of skills. For example, in the Social part of the circle: Your child does not have to be listening to a teacher. The question to ask yourself is if your child understands rules like other children do.

Keep in mind that a child will learn best by doing activities that other children the same age do in your community.