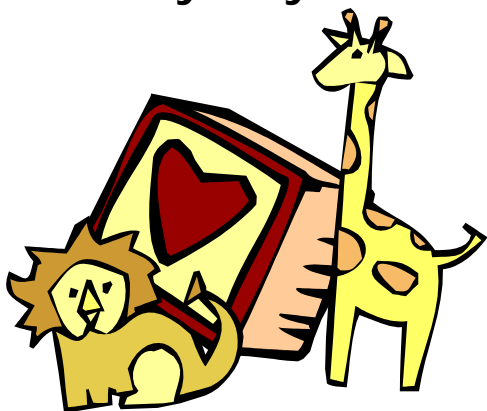


Typical Skills Children Learn in Family Day Care



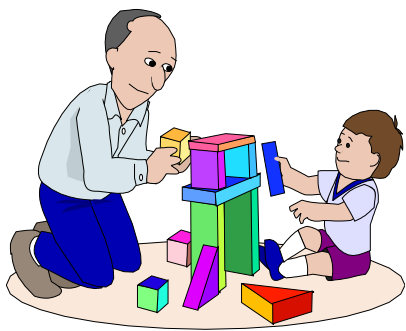
Finding Toys or Learning Materials to Work With By Self or With Others

Cognitive: Makes decisions about interests and abilities.

Self Help: Finds toys by himself or sets up environment for play.

Social/Language: Learns to share, barter, manage conflict, and ask for help.

Emotional: Learns about acceptance and rejection. Expresses needs.



Block Play

Physical: Learns to balance blocks and line them up (small motor coordination).

Cognitive: May count blocks, sees pattern and design. Learns to build and plan structure. Matches blocks that look alike.

Social: Learns to share and cooperate.



Dramatic Play

Social: Plays adult roles. Develops self-image and coordinates with others.

Language: Learns to express self in another role.

Cognitive: Decides appropriate dress and appearance for role; uses visual perceptions to assist self, others, and play environment.

Learns and remembers behaviors to imitate. Develops abstract thinking abilities.

Self-help: Dresses self. Sets up play environment and finds props.

Climbing/Riding

Cognitive: May count the rungs to the top of the climbing structure; plans his climb. Maps out direction and distance to ride; watches for others in path.

Physical: Large motor coordination, balance.

Social: Takes turns, interacts.



Setting The Table

Cognitive: Counts silverware, glasses and napkins, or places one object by each setting. Follows patterns of place settings.

Social: Cooperates with other children. May teach younger children to help.

Physical: Picks up and places objects (small motor coordination).

Sitting Down to Eat

Physical: Pours milk passes the dish (small motor coordination).

Cognitive: Measures to pour. Understands directions.

Social/Language: Learns appropriate table conversation and manners.

Story Time or Listening to Music

Cognitive: Listens and retains information. Follows story line (sequencing), with eyes and /or ears. Recognizes words, pictures, instruments, and rhythms.

Finger plays or Songs

Cognitive/Language: Learns words, gestures, and melody (sequencing, repetition, speech and listening skills). Follows directions.

Physical: Coordination (small and large motor) for gestures and finger plays.

Taken from Family Day Caring May/June 1990

Dance

Cognitive/Language: Listens to music and rhythms. Learns to understand simple movement directions and their relationship to music.

Physical: Coordinates movements (large motor).

Sand Play

Cognitive: Measures sand and maps out roads (Spatial relationships).

Physical: Pours, dumps, pushes, gathers, scoops, packs (small and large motor).

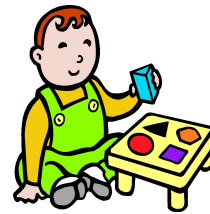
Social: Shares, interacts, cooperates.

Putting Away Toys

Cognitive: Sorts toys, follows directions.

Physical: Places object on the shelf, replaces lids, opens and shuts doors.

Social: Takes turns, learns to handle toys carefully.



Finding quality childcare is not an easy task for any parent. When looking for childcare, always keep your options open. Not all children are ready for a childcare center. Many children need the home environment to help nurture and develop to their fullest potential.

Always keep the lines of communication open with the provider so that she knows when to expect you. And that she may be able to touch base with your child while keeping her routine with the children that are already in care.