

18 Months

Motion

“Into everything”

Builds tower of at least 2 blocks

Builds tower of 3 blocks

Lugs, tugs, dumps, pushes, drags, pounds, runs into corners and byways, goes up and down stairs, pulls a wheeled toy from place to place and abandons it, walks backwards.

Scribbles on paper without help when given a pencil

Very mobile

Walks well alone with some falling

Walks upstairs with help. Crawls upstairs by self.

Drinks from a cup without spilling much

Has little perception of far-off objects. Runs into them headlong, with scant sense of direction.

Likes to complete a situation - puts a ball in a box with decision and caps the performance with a delighted “Oh my”

Closes a door

Hands one a dish when finished

Mops up a puddle

Can throw while standing, but throw is a crude forward thrust and he toddles before and after.

Thinking/Speech

Follows commands such as “Shut the door” and “Get your shoes”

May understand and execute a simple commission, such as “Go and get your hat.”

Turns to person when name is called

Says 2-3 words other than “Mama” or “Dada”

Says 6 words

Has a few favorite expressions of own - “All gone” “Bye-bye” “Oh my”

Social/Play

Expresses wants, such as when s/he has wet pants or wants something to eat, in some way besides crying

Cooperates when parent is dressing her/him, such as putting out a leg to help in having pants put on

Interested in the activities of the household, such as sweeping and dusting and enjoys imitating these.

Beginning to know where things are kept, likes to fetch things and (especially) putting them back

Affect

Short-lived attention span

Attention is sketchy, mobile, works in swift, brief strokes

Impulsive

Likes to be on his feet and go exploring. Darts into every byway, rushes into the street. Refuses to be touched or to have his arm held, but generally tolerates a harness if it is used only when needed.

Harness should be used with a loose rein except to break a fall

Assertion/Anger

Tantrums; cries, throws self on floor, hits, kicks, struggles

Inadvertently destructive of objects

Rough with children or animals