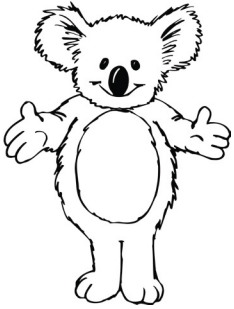


# Child Development

## Three to Four Years



During this time your child may learn to...

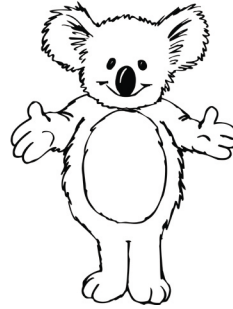
- ✧ talk so that 75-90% of his/her speech is understandable.
- ✧ match and name 2-3 colors.
- ✧ climb up and slide down a small slide by self.

- ✧ cut with child sized blunt ended scissors across a 2-inch strip of paper.
- ✧ catch a bounced ball.
- ✧ count to four.
- ✧ talk in sentences of 3-5 words or more.
- ✧ obey prepositions: in, on, under, behind, and in front
- ✧ draw a person with at least three parts.
- ✧ play with other children, taking turns and sharing toys.
- ✧ hop on one foot 1-3 hops.
- ✧ put together a puzzle with 6 connecting parts.
- ✧ tell a story or relay an idea to someone, pretend when playing (play house).
- ✧ stay with one activity 8-9 minutes.
- ✧ dress with little help on buttons, snaps, zippers.
- ✧ draw a circle.
- ✧ tell if objects are the same or different.
- ✧ ask who, what, where, and why questions.
- ✧ ride a tricycle.

**Please use the range of skills listed above as a guide. Children acquire new skills at varying ages.**

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**Encourage your child's development from three to four years...**

- ✧ put pictures on a strip of paper for your child to cut between 

○	⌘	☺	□
---	---	---	---
- ✧ play catch with a nerf ball if he/she is unsure of catching a plastic one.
- ✧ hit a balloon in the air with different body parts. Name the body part used.
- ✧ put on a record with a good tempo and have him/her march to it.
- ✧ string buttons, old spools of thread onto a shoe string.
- ✧ draw 2 simple identical pictures. Add an extra detail on one of the pictures. The child has to try to discover what has been added.
- ✧ ask your child to help you dry and put away the silverware after washing. Spoons, forks, knives, or utensils can all be put in different trays or drawers for sorting.
- ✧ play children's songs with simple words (tapes/records).
- ✧ make dots and have your child connect the dots to make vertical, horizontal lines.
- ✧ read one book a day. Start to use longer books.
- ✧ pay attention to your child when he/she is talking. Add new information to your child's sentences. Child: "The dog is barking." Adult: "Yes, the dog is barking. He wants a dog bone. Would you like to give him one?"
- ✧ be a good listener.
- ✧ put on his/her socks...help your child fold the upper part of the sock down so that the sock resembles a slipper.

**Appropriate Toys:**

- ✧ barrels to screw/nest
- ✧ tricycle
- ✧ sand toys
- ✧ small table/chairs
- ✧ puppets
- ✧ matching games
- ✧ felt tip pens
- ✧ lotto games
- ✧ wagon
- ✧ train
- ✧ toy animals/people/buildings
- ✧ Duplo blocks
- ✧ smaller pegs/pegboard
- ✧ stickers
- ✧ glue/paper
- ✧ paint/paintbrushes
- ✧ books
- ✧ bristle blocks
- ✧ dolls/clothes
- ✧ slide
- ✧ playdough

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Information from the  
Early Childhood Special Education Department  
Great Prairie Area Education Agency

2814 North Court Street  
Ottumwa, Iowa 52501  
641-682-8591  
800-286-8591

3601 West Avenue Road  
Burlington, Iowa 52601  
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