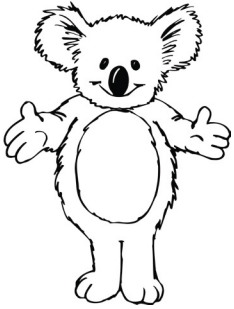


# Child Development

## Four to Five Years



During this time your child may learn to...

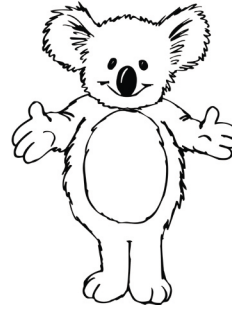
- ✧ gallop.
- ✧ talk so that 90% of his/her speech is understandable.
- ✧ bounce and catch a large ball using both hands.

- ✧ talk in sentences of 4-6 words or more.
- ✧ follow a 2-step direction (ex.: pour the jello in the bowl and then stir it).
- ✧ tell his/her name, age, sex, address, and some nursery rhymes.
- ✧ color staying in the lines of a large picture.
- ✧ count 1-10 objects.
- ✧ answer who, what, why, where, and what if questions.
- ✧ stay with one activity 10-15 minutes.
- ✧ name 6-8 colors and 3 shapes ( ○ △ □ ).
- ✧ understand the meaning of: beside, behind, in front, and over.
- ✧ follow 2 unrelated directions (get your pajamas on and brush your teeth).
- ✧ understand opposites: big/little, long/short, and hard/soft.
- ✧ dress himself/herself and care for self in the bathroom.
- ✧ draw ( ○ + □ \ ).
- ✧ ask for help when needed.

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

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

## You can encourage your child's development from four to five years...

- ✧ have the child give someone a message, "Tell Daddy I need an envelope" .
- ✧ say nursery rhymes and fingerplays together.
- ✧ playdough = 1 cup flour + one half cup salt + 2 T. vegetable oil + 1 tsp. alum. Add small amount of water at a time until consistency of bread dough. It will not be more than half a cup of water. Store in an air tight container. May add food coloring to the water before you add it to the dough to make colored playdough.
- ✧ put four pictures in a row. Ask your child to close his/her eyes. Mix up the cards. See if he/she can replace them in the same order.
- ✧ encourage your child to cut out magazine pictures of things that are noisy and quiet. Paste them on a sheet of paper, with noisy on one side and quiet on the other.
- ✧ talk about things being in, on, under, behind, beside, as you play. Play a game of follow the leader. Say, "I put my bear under the chair, now you put your bear under the chair.
- ✧ pretend to walk like a special animal with your child. Bear (on hands and feet) or a kangaroo (hop on legs).
- ✧ read books that last 10 minutes.
- ✧ encourage him/her to print own name, draw pictures ( simple house, tree, man, car) and to tell about what he/she makes.
- ✧ give directions using 3 actions.
- ✧ blindfold your child. Have the blindfolded child identify sounds made by objects in the home ( ex. radio, mixer, telephone, windup toy, etc.)

### Appropriate Toys:

- ✧ patterns to match
- ✧ jump rope
- ✧ roller skates
- ✧ dustless chalk
- ✧ play money
- ✧ board games
- ✧ card games
- ✧ bean bags
- ✧ glue/crayons/paint
- ✧ dominoes
- ✧ playdough
- ✧ bicycle with training wheels
- ✧ scissors/paper
- ✧ coloring books
- ✧ letters/numbers
- ✧ trucks/cars
- ✧ sewing cards
- ✧ dolls/clothes
- ✧ books
- ✧ sled
- ✧ blackboard
- ✧ large ball
- ✧ bat/ball

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

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