

Children grow and change very quickly. How they speak, play and act give you important clues about your child's development.

Clues and Cues — 3 Years

By 3 years of age, does your child:

Language:

- Speak clearly enough to be understood all of the time by family.
- Speak in sentences of 5 or more words: "I go home and eat".

Cognitive (thinking, learning, problem-solving):

- Understand 2 & 3-step directions: "pick up your hat and boots and put them in closet.
- Understand and use describing words: big, clean, cold, dry.

Social/Emotional:

- Greet friends & familiar adults, when reminded.
- Cooperate with parents' requests, 1/2 of the time.

Physical (movement):

- Stand on 1 foot briefly.
- Throw ball forward at least 1 metre.

How can dad help with his child's development?

- ✓ Books are some of my favourite things: read to me often, make it part of my bedtime routine.
- ✓ I may feel afraid of things that didn't bother me before: I need your help daddy.
- ✓ Let's play ball: Encourage me to throw & catch a ball, kick, hit with a racquet, etc.
- ✓ I like to play with other children: Daddy help me to take turns, share, and cooperate.
- ✓ Silly games make me laugh: cut out pictures from magazine and put moustaches on women, cat faces on humans, etc.
- ✓

If you have questions or concerns about any activity for your child contact a health care or child care professional.

Get more information at www.ndds.ca.