

Your amazing 5 year old 5 year old milestones

During the 5th year, your child:

- catches ball with hands
- can dress and undress by self, combs hair
- puts shoes on correct feet
- can tell a story using full sentences
- tells original stories, uses a large vocabulary
- asks for meanings of words
- copies a triangle and other shapes
- can count to 10, maybe to 20
- understands zero
- can print some letters or numbers
- understands and names letters
- understands a few written words
- can name the days of the week in order
- knows the date of his birthday
- says name and address clearly
- draws a human better, showing 6 body parts
- likes to be supervised and follows instructions
- likes to tell what is going to happen next
- likes to sing and dance
- more likely to agree with rules
- is sometimes demanding and sometimes very cooperative
- is aware of gender
- can tell what's real and make-believe
- uses future tense, like, I will go to school tomorrow
- knows about things used every day, like money and food
- uses a fork and spoon and sometimes a table knife

* All tips apply to both boys and girls

More on back



Hold me, love me, praise me so,
teach me, hug me, watch me grow

- expresses anger with words instead of physically
- is more reasonable in an argument
- develops a sense of fairness
- talks more and is more sociable
- will visit next door neighbors with confidence
- depends on his parents for approval
- is proud of his parents and loves to help them
- will work alone on a chore for 20-30 minutes
- can sit and propel himself on a swing
- turns somersaults with ease
- stand on 1 foot for 10 seconds, hops, maybe skips
- drops and kicks a ball before it hits the ground
- is eager to make and keep friends
- likes to play in small groups
- prefers children of same age and same sex
- explains rules of the game to playmates
- learns to respect the property of others
- thinks to use the toilet before he begins to play
- uses the toilet alone, wipes self, and flushes
- learns to cross the street by looking both ways

Helping with school readiness

- encourage children to want to learn and go to school; use praise a lot
- read out loud together every day, ask child to predict what will happen next
- set high standards and encourage children to try new things
- learn to really listen to them; set good examples
- teach them how to get along with others, to share and take turns and how to say, "I'm sorry"
- don't allow the words "dumb" or "stupid"
- seek assessment if you have concerns about the way your child plays, learns, speaks, acts or moves, such as:
 - they are delayed in size or development
 - have short attention spans or are easily distracted
 - have trouble with eye-hand coordination, like copying a circle, a diamond or the letter H
 - doesn't play games or draw pictures
 - doesn't talk well or respond to people
 - doesn't show a wide range of emotions

Children learn at their own pace, though most move through similar developmental stages. If you have concerns about your child's progress, contact your child's health care provider or look for an "Early Intervention" program in your community.

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